



U.S. Sen. Bob Menendez arrives for a news conference, Wednesday, April 1, 2015, in Newark, N.J. Menendez, the top Democrat on the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, was indicted on corruption charges, accused of using his office to improperly benefit an eye doctor and political donor. (AP Photo/Julio Cortez)

Page 4

Doin' it *low & slow*

Enjoy authentic Southern barbecue at Aruba's only smokehouse...serving beef brisket, pulled pork, baby back ribs, grouper, and more!

1st place Champions of Battle of the Food Trucks

tripadvisor **5.0**

Winner of TripAdvisor's Award of Excellence

the Hollywood Smokehouse

ARUBA

Located at Alhambra Casino & Shops. Hours: Tues-Thurs 5pm to 10pm, Fri-Sat-Sun noon to 10pm (closed Mondays). Phone: 280-9989

Shiva's
GOLD & GEMS

L.G. Smith Blvd. #94
Royal Plaza Mall, Oranjestad, Aruba
Tel: (297) 583-4077 - Fax: (297) 582-6791
E-mail: shivasaruba@setarnet.aw - www.shivasjewelers.com

(2 Locations)

L.G. Smith Blvd. #95
Palm Beach Plaza Mall, Palm Beach, Aruba
Tel: (297) 583-4077 - Fax: (297) 582-6791
E-mail: shivasaruba@setarnet.aw - www.shivasjewelers.com

Shiva's
GOLD & GEMS

With every purchase of US \$500.00 or more

receive a **FREE** pair of diamond stud earrings.

The new EBEL Wave,
shown in 18K yellow gold
& two-toned stainless steel,
hers with diamonds.
The collection, intelligently
priced from \$1,500.

EBEL.COM



EBEL

THE WAVE REIMAGINED.
UNDENIABLY EBEL.

©2014 EBEL – Men's Ref. 1216202 \$1,900
and Women's Ref. 1216198 \$3,500

Shiva's

GOLD & GEMS

L.G. Smith Blvd. #94
Royal Plaza Mall, Oranjestad, Aruba
Tel: (297) 583-4077 - Fax: (297) 582-6791
E-mail: shivasaruba@setarnet.aw - www.shivasjewelers.com

(2 Locations)

L.G. Smith Blvd. #95
Palm Beach Plaza Mall, Palm Beach, Aruba
Tel: (297) 583-4077 - Fax: (297) 582-6791
E-mail: shivasaruba@setarnet.aw - www.shivasjewelers.com



THE ORIGINAL TOMATO'S CHARLIES IS BACK ON ARUBA

Chicago style pizza and so much more!!
Open for breakfast lunch and dinner in an open view atmosphere
Located at Brickell Bay Beach Club on Palm Beach
Hours 7:00am until 12:00 midnight



Free Pitcher of Beer with a Large Charlies Famous Pizza

California governor orders mandatory water restrictions



California Gov. Jerry Brown, center, answers a question concerning the executive order he signed that imposes mandatory water restrictions at Echo Summit, Calif., Wednesday, April 1, 2015. Brown stands with Mark Cowin, left, Director of the California Department of Water Resources and Frank Gehrke, chief of the California Cooperative Snow Surveys Program for the DWR. (AP Photo/Rich Pedroncelli)

FENIT NIRAPPIL
Associated Press
ECHO LAKE, California (AP)

— California Gov. Jerry Brown ordered officials Wednesday to impose statewide mandatory water restrictions for the first time in history as surveyors found the lowest snow level in the Sierra Nevada snowpack in 65 years of record-keeping.

Standing in dry, brown grass at a site that normally would be snow-covered this time of year, Brown announced he had signed an executive order requiring the State Water Resources Control Board to implement measures in cities and towns to cut the state's overall water usage by 25 percent compared with 2013 levels.

The move will affect residents, businesses, farmers and other users.

"We're in a historic drought

and that demands unprecedented action," Brown said at a news conference at Echo Summit in the Sierra Nevada, where state water officials found no snow on the ground for the first time in their April manual survey of the snowpack. "We have to pull together and save water in every way we can."

After declaring a drought emergency in January 2014, Brown urged all Californians to cut water use by 20 percent from the previous year. Despite increasingly stringent regulations imposed on local water agencies by the state, overall water use has fallen by just half that amount, prompting Brown to order the stronger action by the water board.

"We're in a new era; the idea of your nice little green grass getting water every day, that's going

to be a thing of the past," Brown said.

The executive order will require campuses, golf courses, cemeteries and other large landscapes to significantly cut water use; direct local governments to replace 50 million square feet (4.65 million sq. meters) of lawns with drought-tolerant landscaping; and create a temporary rebate program for consumers who replace old water-sucking appliances with more efficient ones.

It calls on local water agencies to be more aggressive in charging for high water use, including extra fees for the highest water consumption.

The snow survey on Wednesday showed the statewide snowpack is equivalent to 5 percent of the historical average for April 1 and the lowest for that date since the state began record-keeping in 1950.

Snow supplies about a third of the state's water, and a lower snowpack means less water in California reservoirs to meet demand in summer and fall.

Critics of the Democratic governor said his order does not go far enough to address agriculture — the biggest water user in California.

The order contains no water reduction target for

farmers, who have let thousands of acres go fallow as the state and federal government slashed water deliveries from reservoirs. Instead, it requires many agricultural water suppliers to submit detailed drought management plans that include how much water they have and what they're doing to scale back.

In the past year, the state water board has imposed mandatory water-saving restrictions on urban users that prohibit sprinklers running off onto pavement, bans residents from watering lawns two days after rain, and bars restaurants from serving water unless customers ask for it. □

Easter Brunch



PANCAKES | EGGS BENEDICT | WAFFLES | MIMOSA
OMELET STATION | PIZZA STATION | PASTECCHI
KEESHI YENA | PEEL AND EAT SHRIMP | SALADS
GARLIC SPIKED PRIME RIB | SMOKED SALMON
GROUPE IN BASIL | FRESH FRUIT SMOOTHIES
CHOCOLATE FOUNTAIN | DESSERT STATION

Sunday April 5th, 2015
7:00 am - 2:00 pm

\$50⁰⁰ per person
kids 6-12 half price
0-5 eat free



EASTER BUNNY
EGG HUNT
FACE PAINTING
LIVE MUSIC

ARUBA MARRIOTT | RESERVATIONS RECOMMENDED | 520 6601

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Aruba Today Newspaper announces that due to the Holiday Weekend, we will not be in circulation Friday, Saturday, Sunday or Monday, April 3, 4, 5, and 6. We will be back on newsstands everywhere bright and early to serve our readers and advertisers first thing in the morning, Tuesday, April 7.

CRYSTAL CASINO Starts April 6 2015

Monday

- 50+ Receive \$10 Slot Play 6 PM - 12 AM
(must accumulate 50 points during the week)
- Three Times The Points 9 AM - 12 PM

Tuesday

- Cash Back
- Double The Points 5 PM - 9 PM

Wednesday

- Slot Tournament \$900 in Cash Prizes (\$5 Buy In / \$5 Re-Buy)
Registration at 6 PM Tournament starts 8 PM
- Two Times Tickets 4 PM - 6 PM

Thursday

- Win Dinners for Two, \$100 (\$50 Cash + \$50 Slot Play) \$250 Cash

Friday

- \$1200 in Cash Prizes

Saturday


- \$2000 in Cash Prizes

Sunday

- Four Times The Points 6 PM - 10 PM

Must accumulate 25 points during the week to be eligible to participate * every 25 points is one ticket*
Management reserves the right to change or cancel any promotion

For more information please contact our Playerscenter at 5836000 ext 6318



*It's pointless to play
anywhere else!*

Sen. Robert Menendez indicted on corruption charges

ERIC TUCKER
SEAN CARLIN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Bob Menendez, the son of Cuban immigrants who rose to become one of the

highest-ranking Hispanic members of Congress, was charged Wednesday with accepting nearly \$1 million worth of gifts and campaign contributions from a longtime friend in

exchange for a stream of political favors. Menendez predicted he would be “vindicated” and said “this is not how my career is going to end” in a defiant statement in front



U.S. Sen. Bob Menendez speaks during a news conference, Wednesday, April 1, 2015, in Newark, N.J. Menendez, the top Democrat on the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, was indicted on corruption charges, accused of using his office to improperly benefit an eye doctor and political donor.

(AP Photo/Julio Cortez)

LET
US
STAY
WITH
YOU.

*Let us fill your Easter basket with love, joy,
family and friends during a sumptuous Brunch.*





EASTER BRUNCH AT THE RITZ-CARLTON, ARUBA

Perfectly prepared and artfully displayed, our Easter Brunch presents:

Chilled seafood display | Assorted specialty rolls, sushi and sashimi
Cheese display | AM delights | Chef omelet station | Salad bar | Pasta station
Carving station | Selection of desserts

USD 80 per adult w/o champagne
USD 35 per child ages 6-12 | Ages 3-5 Free
12:30 pm—3:00 pm



SOLARIO

RESTAURANT

For reservation please call 572-2217

L.G. SMITH BOULEVARD #107, PALM BEACH, ARUBA

of reporters and cheering supporters Wednesday evening.

“I am not going anywhere. I’m angry and ready to fight because today contradicts my public service and my entire life,” Menendez said.

A federal grand jury indictment accuses the New Jersey Democrat of using the power of his Senate seat to benefit Dr. Salomon Melgen, a wealthy Florida eye doctor who prosecutors say provided the senator with luxury vacations, airline travel, golf trips and

tens of thousands of dollars in contributions to a legal defense fund.

Menendez is scheduled to appear in federal court on Thursday.

The indictment clouds the political future of Menendez, the committee’s former chairman, who has played a leading role in Congress on matters involving Iran’s nuclear program and U.S. efforts to improve ties with Cuba. The son of Cuban immigrants, he has risen to become one of the highest ranking Hispanic members of Congress. □



OPEN DAILY FOR BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER & DRINKS
SUNDAY - THURSDAY FROM 8:00 AM - MIDNIGHT
FRIDAY & SATURDAY FROM 8:00 AM - 1:00 AM

- DAILY SPECIALS
- FREE & AMPLE PARKING
- 6 FLAT SCREENS
- BARREL AGED COCKTAILS
- FREE WIFI
- 6 ICE-COLD DRAFT BEERS
- KIDS MENU & KIDS CORNER
- ARUBA'S LARGEST BOURBON SELECTION

GOURMET BURGERS &
BARREL AGED
COCKTAILS

LOCATED DOWNTOWN ORANJESTAD AT RENAISSANCE (SEAPORT) MARKETPLACE ACROSS THE OCEAN SUITES
TEL: +297 583 5511 EMAIL: INFO@SIDEBARARUBA.COM WWW.SIDEBARARUBA.COM



Arkansas governor urges changes to religious objection bill

ANDREW DEMILLO
Associated Press

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas (AP)

— The governor of Arkansas on Wednesday called for changes to a religious objection measure that has faced a backlash from businesses and gay rights groups.

Gov. Asa Hutchinson, a Republican, said the law wasn't intended to sanction discrimination based on sexual orientation, as critics have claimed.

Nonetheless, the governor said he wants changes to the bill lawmakers sent him prohibiting state and local government from infringing upon someone's religious beliefs without a compelling interest. Hutchinson said he wants the Legislature to either recall the bill or pass a follow-up measure to make the proposal more closely mirror a 1993 federal religious freedom law.

Hutchinson had initially supported the bill and on Tuesday his office had said he planned to sign it into law.

But by Wednesday, his position had changed. After Indiana Gov. Mike Pence signed a similar measure last week, Pence and fellow Republicans endured days of sharp criticism. The Indiana governor is now seeking follow-up legislation to address concerns that the law could allow businesses to discriminate based on sexual orientation.

Neither the Indiana nor Arkansas law specifically mentions gays and lesbians, but opponents are concerned that their language could offer a legal defense to businesses and other institutions that refuse to serve gays, such as

caterers, florists or photographers with religious objections to same-sex marriage.

Supporters insist the law will only give religious objectors a chance to bring their case before a judge.

Similar proposals have been introduced in more than a dozen states. Nineteen other states have similar laws on the books.

Conservative lawmakers have proposed the religious-protection laws as gay marriage advanced rapidly across America, an attempt to shield people from private discrimination lawsuits if they felt that doing business with same-sex couples violated their religious beliefs.

Echoing the reaction to Indiana's law, Hutchinson has faced pressure from the state's top employers, including retail giant Wal-Mart, which complained that the measure was discriminatory and would stifle economic development. Little Rock's mayor, the city's Chamber of Commerce and Arkansas-based data services company Acxiom all urged the governor to reject the measure in recent days.

Other big names in businesses, including Apple, Gap and Levi Strauss, have also spoken out against the religious-objection measures.

Experts say companies are increasingly concerned about any laws that could alienate customers, hurt state economies or limit employers' ability to attract and retain talent.

Arkansas-based Wal-Mart Stores Inc. is particularly influential because it is the world's largest retailer and the nation's largest private employer. □



Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson answers reporters' questions as Sen. Jonathan Dismang, R-Beebe, background, listens at the state Capitol in Little Rock, Ark., Wednesday, April 1, 2015. Hutchinson called for changes to the state's religious objection measure facing a backlash from businesses and gay rights groups, saying it wasn't intended to sanction discrimination based on sexual orientation. (AP Photo/Danny Johnston)

Join Us for an Unforgettable

Easter BRUNCH

.....

Bring the whole family along on Easter Sunday

Matthew's

beachside restaurant

Located on the beach at Casa del Mar Beach Resort
Only with reservations call 588 7300
Email: info@matthews-aruba.com

SUNDAY, APRIL 5

All-You-Can-Eat CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH BUFFET

Omelet Station - Seafood Salad - Pasta Station
Fruit Display - Cold Cuts
Hot Entrees - Dessert
Tea - Coffee - Mimosa
Champagne - Orange juice

.....

LIVE MUSIC by PAOLA

.....

Price Adults \$34.⁹⁵ +
Kids HALF PRICE 5 to 12 yrs
(+15% service charge and taxes)

tripadvisor®



YOLOGURT
Aruba

HAPPY HOUR



YOLOGURTARUBA

**BUY ONE YOLOGURT 16oz AND
GET ONE FREE YOLOGURT 8oz**
THIS EASTER / 3PM TO 7PM
4, 5 & 6 APRIL

— ONLY AT —

"nos orguza... Aruba's pride"

Atlanta educators convicted in school cheating scandal

ALAN BLINDER

© 2015 New York Times

ATLANTA - In a major victory for prosecutors, a number of Atlanta educators were found guilty Wednesday for their roles in public schools cheating scandal, bringing a close to a half-decade drama that tarnished a major school district's reputation and raised questions nationwide about the wisdom of pushing educators to improve students' standardized test scores.

On their eighth day of deliberations, the jurors convicted 11 of the 12 defendants of racketeering, a felony that could put them in prison for decades. Many of the defendants - a mixture of teachers, testing coordinators and

administrators - were also convicted of lesser charges, such as making false statements.

Judge Jerry W. Baxter of the Fulton County Superior Court ordered most of the educators to be taken into custody immediately, and they were led from the courtroom in handcuffs. Baxter, who presided over a trial that started with opening statements more than six months ago, will begin sentencing hearings next week.

"Our entire effort in this case was simply to get our community to stop and take a look at our educational system," District Attorney Paul L. Howard Jr. said. "I think because of the decision of this jury today that people will stop. I



Donald Bullock, a former testing coordinator with Atlanta Public Schools, is led to a holding cell after the verdict that found him and 10 others guilty of racketeering, at court in Atlanta, April 1, 2015. The educators who stood trial were indicted in 2013 after questions about how Atlanta students had substantially improved scores on a test given throughout Georgia. Many of the defendants - a mixture of teachers, testing coordinators and administrators - were also convicted of lesser charges, such as making false statements.

(Kent D. Johnson/Pool via The New York Times)

think people will stop and they will make an assessment of our educational system."

Defense lawyers emerged from the courthouse holding their clients' personal effects, including purses, ties and scarves. One lawyer, George Lawson, who represented Michael Pitts, said the defendants were convicted primarily on the testimony of admitted liars and criminals - people who had already pleaded guilty.

The dozen educators who stood trial, including five teachers and a principal, were indicted in March 2013 after years of questions about how Atlanta students had substantially improved their scores on the Criterion-Referenced Competency Test, a standardized examination given throughout Georgia.

In 2009, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution started a series of articles that sowed suspicion about the veracity of the test scores, and Gov. Sonny Perdue ultimately ordered an investigation.

The findings, which were completed in June 2011, were unsparing: Investigators concluded that cheating had occurred in at least 44 of Atlanta's schools and that the district had been troubled by "organized and systemic misconduct." Nearly 180 employees, including 38 principals, were accused of wrongdoing. The investigators wrote that cheating was commonplace in individual schools - at one, for instance, a principal wore gloves while she altered answer sheets - but they also said that the district's top officials, including Superintendent

Beverly L. Hall, bore some responsibility.

Investigators wrote in the report wrote that Hall and her aides had "created a culture of fear, intimidation and retaliation" that had permitted "cheating - at all levels - to go unchecked for years."

Officials said the cheating allowed employees to collect bonuses and helped improve the reputations of both Hall, a former administrator in New York City and New Jersey, and the perpetually troubled school district she had led since 1999.

Hall, who died March 2, insisted that she had done nothing wrong and that her approach to education, which emphasized data, was not to blame.

"I can't accept that there is a culture of cheating," Hall said in 2011. □

BEST DEAL ON THE MARKET!

Just minutes away from Palm Beach
Motivated Sellers



Built +/- 5 years ago; 3 Bed/2Ba; Open living/dining/kitchen area; family room; modern Kitchen; ceramic Roof Tiles, Enclosed Garage; 70% of yard covered crushed stones and some landscaping. Fully fenced;. Enough space to ad a large pool and deck. Good vacation rental income if desired. Mint condition. Only the attic needs to be completed.
 Selling way below market value!!! (Reasonable offers considered)
Asking Price: \$ 290,000.00
 Don't miss this opportunity!!!



Best Buy
 REALTY
The Best Deals on the Market

Call: (297) 737-3000 for a viewing
 E-mail: ken@bestbuyrealtymaruba.com
 Visit us at: www.bestbuyrealtymaruba.com

Early bird
3 course menu from
5 pm till 6.30 pm \$ 23

BARNEY'S

BAR & RESTAURANT

FOOD & FUN FOR EVERYONE!

Every Thursday.....

ALL YOU CAN EAT BBQ Ribs

LIVE PIANO & SINGING ENTERTAINMENT

Certificate of Excellence
2014 Winner

\$19.50

f

www.barneysaruba.aw Palm beach 21 A, +297- 586 5420 , Closed on SUNDAY'S, also available for private events

US Financial Front:

American car buyers in slow lane following torrid run



Chevrolet vehicles are on display at a dealership in Gibsonia, Pa. Automakers released vehicle sales for March on Wednesday, April 1, 2015.

(AP Photo/Gene J. Puskar)

DEE-ANN DURBIN
AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) — U.S. car buyers tapped the brakes in March, a sign of a long-expected slowdown in the blistering pace of sales. March sales were up less than 1 percent compared with the same month a year ago. U.S. consumers bought 1.5 million new cars and trucks in March, according to Autodata Corp. Some automakers reported larger gains. Hyundai's U.S. sales jumped 12 percent over last March after a big boost in incentives. Subaru's sales were up 10 percent. Toyota's sales were up 5 percent, and FCA — the parent of Chrysler and Fiat — said its sales rose 2 percent. But those gains were nearly offset by lower sales at other major automakers. General Motors' sales fell 2 percent and Ford and Nissan both saw 3 percent declines. Honda's sales were down 5 percent. Volkswagen's sales plummeted 18 percent. For the most part, March didn't see the kind of big increases the industry has gotten used to. U.S. auto sales were up 14 percent in January, for example, and 5 percent in February.

There were several contributing factors. Last March saw a surge in sales after an unusually cold February; by contrast, this March still had lingering snow in much of the country. This March also had one less weekend than last March. Still, March gave the industry a taste of what's to come as U.S. new-car sales reach a natural peak. Sales have been increasing by around 1 million vehicles each year since 2009, when sales fell to 10.4 million vehicles in the depths of the recession. But as sales approach the historic peak of 17 million, the pace is expected to slow. U.S. consumers bought 16.5 million new vehicles last year. Alec Gutierrez, a senior market analyst for Kelley Blue Book, said he expects sales to increase by around 2.5 percent this year, or 400,000 cars and trucks. Gutierrez says March is usually one of the strongest months of the year, as buyers spend tax returns and Japanese automakers offer good deals so they can close out their fiscal years on a high note. Low interest rates and low gas prices are also enticing factors. But sales were still flat for the month. "This really shows we're at a

point where sales are going to grow at a much slower pace," he said. GM — like other automakers — saw big declines in car sales as consumers flocked to SUVs and trucks. Sales of the compact Sonic dropped 51 percent for the month, and Cadillac ATS sales dropped 31 percent. But Chevrolet Silverado pickup sales were up 7 percent. GM sold 249,875 cars and

trucks last month. Ford's F-Series pickup truck sales were down 5 percent as the company continues to change over to its new aluminum-bodied F-150. Ford has said it won't have normal truck inventory levels on dealers' lots until this summer. But the company also saw big declines for some of its other top sellers, including the Escape SUV, which was

down 8 percent, and the Fusion sedan, which saw a 12 percent sales decline. Ford sold 235,929 cars and trucks last month. Toyota said its car sales were flat but its truck and SUV sales jumped 12 percent. RAV4 small SUV sales were up 28 percent. Lexus SUV sales were also strong thanks to the new NX small SUV. Toyota sold 225,959 vehicles in March. □

ARUBA'S MOST REWARDING CASINO EXPERIENCE

EASTER BINGO HUNT

WEDNESDAY APRIL 1ST - SUNDAY APRIL 5TH*

* No bingo on Friday

BINGO STARTS AT 1PM • \$14 / AFL.25 PER CARD

.....

\$3,900 IN PRIZES PER DAY!

.....

Easter Sunday Bingo: full card within 50 calls wins AWG.50.000,- and full card above 50 calls wins AWG.5.000,- plus progressive.

Intermission Random Pick:
Every 10 minutes, exciting door prizes.

PLAY & WIN WITH ADDITIONAL EASTER FUN GAMES:

- Easter Sunday Egg Hunting Game with wonderful give away.
- Easter Monday Double Points & Comps for the "Trip to Curaçao" from 10am – 6pm for slots and from 4:30pm - 9:30pm for tables.

For more information call 527-2222 ext. 2277 or 2276
Apply for our Player's Card today, it's complimentary and fun!

THE CASINO

AT THE RITZ-CARLTON® ARUBA

THE Sopranos
PIANO BAR

LIVE PIANO ENTERTAINMENT
at 8pm

BADA BING!

Open daily at 5pm

DAILY HAPPY HOURS

5 to 8pm +
1 to 2am

On ALL drinks!

Tuesdays
COCKTAIL
WORKSHOP

between
5 and 8pm

mix, shake
& drink
your own made cocktails

\$25

Wednesdays
*Champagne
Night*

Champagne
by the glass \$4

Ladies Only!!

Saturdays
at 8pm

**Acoustic
Night**

Sing-A-Long Piano Bar



Located at Arawak Garden, Palm Beach - tel: (+297) 586 8622 - www.sopranospianobar.com

US military aid released to Egypt boosts leader's legitimacy



United States Secretary of State John Kerry, left, and Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi meet on the sidelines of the Egypt Economic Development Conference in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt in March, 2015. The release of U.S. military aid to Egypt withheld following the army's overthrow of an elected Islamist president in 2013 has boosted the legitimacy of the former military chief now running the country, nearly a year into his four-year term.

(AP Photo/Brian Snyder, Pool)

BRIAN ROHAN
Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — The release of U.S. military aid to Egypt withheld following the army's overthrow of an elected Islamist president in 2013 has boosted the legitimacy of the former military chief now running the country,

nearly a year into his four-year term. President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi on Wednesday welcomed the move, another victory in his quest to eliminate some of the last international penalties on his government after companies gave it a strong vote

of confidence at a March economic summit that generated tens of billions of dollars in investment. In a statement, el-Sissi's office said he had told U.S. President Barack Obama by telephone that the decision supports the strategic objectives of both

countries in combating terrorism and extremism and maintaining security, particularly in Egypt's restive Sinai Peninsula.

The \$1.3 billion in annual arms funding was suspended 21 months ago when el-Sissi, then military chief, overthrew President Mohammed Morsi amid massive protests against his yearlong rule. Until now, Washington had withheld much of the package because it could not certify that el-Sissi's government had made advances on democracy, human rights and rule of law, as Obama had earlier required.

El-Sissi was elected president last May, while plans to hold parliamentary elections have been repeatedly postponed.

In the end, however, the Obama administration decided that it would release the aid on other grounds, saying it was in the interests of U.S. national security. The move underlines how Egypt's emerging role in a campaign against regional extremists like the Islamic State group outweighs concerns over documented domestic human rights

abuses.

The decision releases orders for 12 F-16 fighter jets, 20 missiles and up to 125 tank kits, with the White House saying it will continue to request the yearly package, restoring Egypt as the second-largest recipient of U.S. foreign military financing after Israel. Despite the suspension of military aid, the U.S. had been providing hundreds of millions of dollars in arguably more important counterterrorism assistance to its ally.

The decision did however contain one catch: new rules kicking in from 2018 will limit a cushy financing deal Egypt had previously maintained that allowed it to pre-order military equipment years in advance on the promise that Congress would fund the request in subsequent fiscal years.

The U.S. will also focus the aid more on specific areas that fit its strategic goals in the region — counterterrorism, border security, maritime security, and Sinai security, as well as sustaining weapons systems already in Egypt's arsenal — not necessarily massive Abrams tanks designed for land wars and which Egypt already has in number.

"In this way, we will ensure that U.S. funding is being used to promote shared objectives in the region, including a secure and stable Egypt and the defeat of terrorist organizations," National Security Council spokeswoman Bernadette Meehan said in a statement Tuesday.

Egypt had been arguing it needs the tanks, fighter jets and missiles to face growing threats from extremists creeping over the border from lawless Libya or operating in the northern Sinai. □

Boehner, Netanyahu, in Israel meeting, keep it low key

JODI RUDOREN
© 2015 New York Times

JERUSALEM - If the speaker of the House visits Israel, and does not say anything substantive, does it have any effect on the troubled relations between Washington and Jerusalem? Much ado was made in both capitals when it was discovered that Speaker John A. Boehner, R-Ohio, would lead a Congressional delegation to Israel this week. It was Boehner, after all, who had invited Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel to speak

before Congress, against White House wishes, about the emerging nuclear deal with Iran.

The Israel visit, coming two weeks after an election that handed Netanyahu a fourth term and coinciding with a deadline in the Iran negotiations, was derided as an unseemly victory lap. Critics said it could only deepen accusations of mutual meddling in domestic politics, especially amid the post-election furor in the Obama administration about Netanyahu's campaign statements ruling out

a Palestinian state and appearing to denigrate Arab citizens.

But after the original deadline for the Iran talks came and went without an announcement from negotiators in Lausanne, Switzerland, Boehner came and went without making news. The prime minister and the speaker were originally scheduled to make statements for the cameras at noon (print reporters were not allowed to attend). Instead, Netanyahu appeared alone to issue his latest attack on the nucle-

ar negotiations, using the word "unconscionable" as he said, "Now is the time for the international community to insist on a better deal."

"Yesterday, an Iranian general brazenly declared, and I quote, 'Israel's destruction is nonnegotiable,' but evidently giving Iran's murderous regime a clear path to the bomb is negotiable," Netanyahu declared. "Iran must stop its aggression in the region, stop its terrorism throughout the world, and stop its threats to annihilate Israel. □

Iraq hails victory over Islamic State extremists in Tikrit

QASSIM ZAHRA,
SAMEER N. YACIOUB
Associated Press

TIKRIT, Iraq (AP) — The government declared victory in Tikrit on Wednesday over extremists of the Islamic State group, and it warned the militants holding other Iraqi provinces that they would be the next to fall. Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi walked triumphantly along a street in Tikrit, carrying an Iraqi flag and surrounded by jubilant forces. Across the border in Syria, however, Islamic State fighters made their deepest foray yet into the capital of Damascus by infiltrating a Palestinian refugee camp, according to opposition activists and Palestinian officials.

Iraq's victory over the extremists in Tikrit was seen as a key step toward eventually driving the militants out of Mosul, Iraq's second-largest city and the capital of Nineveh province.

Defense Minister Khalid al-Obeidi announced the victory, saying security forces have "accomplished their mission" in the monthlong offensive to rid Saddam Hussein's hometown and the broader Salahuddin province of the militant group.

"We have the pleasure, with all our pride, to announce the good news of a magnificent victory,"



Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi tours the city of Tikrit after it was retaken by the security forces in Baghdad, Iraq, Wednesday, April 1, 2015. Iraq declared a "magnificent victory" over the Islamic State group in Tikrit, a key step in driving the militants out of their biggest strongholds.

(AP Photo)

Obeidi said in a video statement, and he named the other Iraqi provinces still being held by the IS militants.

"Here we come to you, Anbar! Here we come to you, Nineveh, and we say it with full resolution, confidence, and persistence," he said. Al-Abadi said that military engineering units still need more time to clear Tikrit of booby traps and looked to the next steps for the city and province.

"God willing, there will be a fund to rebuild areas de-

stroyed by Daesh and the war. Tikrit and Salahuddin areas will be covered by this fund," al-Abadi said, using the Arabic acronym for the Islamic State group.

The extremists seized Tikrit last summer during its advance out of Syria and across northern and west-

ern Iraq.

Iraqi forces, including soldiers, police officers, Shiite militias and Sunni tribes, launched a large-scale operation to recapture Tikrit on March 2.

Last week, the U.S. launched airstrikes on the embattled city at the re-

quest of the Iraqi government.

Recapturing Tikrit is seen as the biggest win so far for Baghdad's Shiite-led government. The city is about 130 kilometers (80 miles) north of Baghdad on the road connecting the capital to Mosul.

White House spokesman Josh Earnest said the victory was compelling evidence that the U.S. strategy against IS was working. He said the Tikrit operation had been stalled for weeks but that coalition airstrikes and advancing local forces apparently caused IS fighters to withdraw.

"What is clear is that over the last five days, this strategy of backing up Iraqi security forces that are multi-sectarian in nature with coalition airstrikes is a pretty powerful combination," Earnest said.

Earlier Wednesday, Iraqi security forces fired on snipers and searched homes for remaining militants. Soldiers fanned out from the charred, skeletal remains of the Salahuddin provincial government complex, captured Tuesday. □



FANTASTIC VILLA
Modanza Villa Park
3 Bedrooms
2.5 Bathrooms
Pool
Property Land
Motivated seller

US\$ 425,000
ID# 1059



Tel: (297) 587-6666 / Tel: (297) 586-6672
Info@coldwellbanker.aw
WWW.COLDWELLBANKER.AW



SPECIAL DINNER MENU

Soups

* Spicy Beef Soup / Madam Jeanette

*French Onion Soup

or

Keski Yena "Local"

Ovenbaked Gouda cheese filled with ragout of chicken breast, celery, cashew nuts, raisins, onions and olives

or

Crispy Asian Salad

Rice noodle and crispy veggies served with ginger sesame dressing

Entrees

Chicken Alfredo Pasta served on homemade fettuccini pasta topped with shaved parmesan

or

Grilled marinated Skirted Steak and Shrimps

served with seasonal veggies, herbed potatoes and chimichuri sauce

or

Panfried Filet of Grouper

served with stirfried veggies, mashed potatoes and creamy clam sauce

Dessert

Key Lime Pie

or

Chocolate Cheese Cake

Coffee/Tea

No service charge

Discounts, vouchers or certificates cannot be used with this special
Open daily from 5:30 PM - 10:30 PM (closed on Mondays)
For reservations call: 587-6695 - J.E. Erasquin blvd #64 Eagle Beach
www.carambola-aruba.com * info@carambola-aruba.com

Early Bird Dinner Special
at **\$24.95** per person
From 5:30PM - 7:00PM

JOLLY PIRATES \$10^{off}

SAIL, SNORKEL, SWIM & SWING
DAILY 9am - 1pm \$60 pp
 Visit 3 Great sites with BBQ,
 Open Bar, Gear & Ropeswing!

AFTERNOON CRUISE
DAILY 2pm - 5pm \$45 pp
 Our shorter snorkel cruise, with
 Open Bar, Gear & Ropeswing!

DAILY SUNSET SAIL
DAILY 5:30pm - 7:30pm \$32 pp
 Enjoy spectacular sunset. Open
 Bar & Ropeswing included

Tickets available at Jolly Pirates Shop at MooMba Beach. Boarding at MooMba Beach- by the high rise hotels between Holiday Inn and Marriott Resorts. Offer not valid in combination with other discount offers. Valid for direct telephone reservations ONLY - Present coupon at boarding
586 8107/592 7858

Save \$10 per couple/per coupon for morning cruise Save \$5 per couple/per coupon for afternoon cruise

Alps crash: Bodies recovered, but families must wait months

LORI HINNANT
Associated Press

SEYNE-LES-ALPES, France (AP) — Just over a week after a Germanwings plane crashed into the French Alps, investigators have finished retrieving human remains from the crash site and are now trying to match them with DNA profiles from the 150 people killed — an arduous task that could leave families waiting for months.

The extraordinary recovery process mobilized hundreds of people and cut a stony road into a forested Alpine mountainside to help the team bring back anything they found, from a body part to a tiny shred of skin. Not a single intact body was found.

Francois Daoust, head of the France's IRCGN national criminal laboratory in Pontoise outside Paris, said that as of Monday afternoon the forensic teams on the site and in Paris had isolated 78 distinct DNA profiles from the hundreds of samples recovered at the site — leaving nearly as many unaccounted for.

Meanwhile, they had only received complete DNA profiles for about 60 victims from their relatives because it takes time to gather samples from families still reeling from their loss.

Based on black box cockpit recordings recovered the day of the crash, investigators believe the Germanwings co-pilot, Andreas Lubitz, locked the captain out of the cockpit and deliberately slammed the plane into the mountain, killing everyone on board.

The impact of the March 24 crash shattered the plane and all those inside, ripped a black box from its orange protective casing, and left shreds of metal and cloth scattered across hundreds of meters (yards).

Lt. Col. Jean-Marc Menichini, who has been involved in the operation focusing on recovering victims' remains, said Wednesday "there are no longer any visible remains" at the crash site.

A special unit of mountain troops, with help from German investigators, is now clearing the crash site of everything else that is there — including debris and personal effects.

While the retrieval of DNA from the body parts may be completed as early as this week, Daoust said it would take two to four months to match the samples with the victims' DNA profiles.

Dental and surgical records, tattoos, DNA from hair- or toothbrushes — will all serve to identify and ultimately return the remains to families.

Daoust said all the families will be informed at the same time who has been identified.

"If I announced an identification as soon as I had it to a family, psychologically it's an oppression and a pressure on those that don't yet have an identification," he said. □



Shiite rebels, known as Houthis, hold up their weapons to protest against Saudi-led airstrikes, during a rally in Sanaa, Yemen, Wednesday, April 1, 2015. Saudi-led coalition warplanes bombed Shiite rebel positions in both north and south Yemen early Wednesday, setting off explosions and drawing return fire from anti-aircraft guns.

(AP Photo/Hani Mohammed)

Airstrikes blamed for Yemen factory deaths

AHMED AL-HAJ
Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen (AP) — Saudi-led coalition warplanes bombed Shiite rebel positions Wednesday across Yemen as a missile strike on a dairy factory killed 35 workers, authorities said, as both sides disputed who fired on it.

Wednesday's strikes marked a week of airstrikes by the Saudi-led campaign, which aims to weaken the Shiite rebels known as Houthis and forces allied with them, largely fighters loyal to Yemen's deposed leader Ali Abdullah Saleh. Since their advance began last year, the Houthis have overrun Yemen's capital, Sanaa, and several provinces, forcing President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi to flee the country.

In a surprise attack, al-Qaida militants stormed

the center of the city of al-Mukalla, the capital of the southeastern province of Hadramawt, still controlled by pro-Hadi forces.

The militants assaulted the central prison in the city, with rocket propelled grenades, and freed an unknown number of prisoners, local residents and a security official said.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to reporters, said it is not clear if Khalid Batarfi, an al-Qaida operative arrested over a year ago, was among those freed.

The crumbling of Hadi's government has been a concern for is a blow to Washington's counterterrorism strategy against al-Qaida's branch in Yemen, considered to be the most powerful in the terrorist net-

work. Before the airstrikes, about 100 U.S. military advisers withdrew from the al-Annad air base where they had been leading a drone campaign against al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, or AQAP. The official said the militants proceeded to attack the branch of the Yemeni central bank in al-Mukalla, and clashes were ongoing, the official said. The presence of al-Qaida militants in Yemen only adds to the explosive mix in Yemen, particularly as they have emerged as a powerful force against the rebels.

Wednesday's airstrikes targeted rebel-controlled army camps in the Red Sea port city of Hodeida and anti-aircraft guns there returned fire.

In the firefight, missiles hit warehouses belonging to a factory that makes dairy products. □



Jeep Tour Safari

Drive your own Jeep Wrangler or Kia Sportage, or (be a passenger) through the Country side, explore Aruba's secret beaches that you would never on your own, we'll present Aruba's total topside history by Jeep with the island's best guides pointing out the way and stopping at the most iconic sites the island has to offer, such as Indian Caves, National Park, Baby Beach & more...optional join us for a nice Sailing & Snorkeling cruise after your Jeep Tour.

Visit us at Casa del Mar, Playa Linda, Holiday Inn Concierge/lobby desk/ beach huts, RIU Hut between Antilla & Palace Hotel on the beach, or at our own Pelican Pier located between the Holiday Inn & Playa Linda Resort. For reservations call 587-2302 (Mon-Sun) Or book online at: www.pelican-aruba.com



PRESENT THIS AD AND RECEIVE \$10 DISCOUNT PER COUPLE

As Nigeria celebrates Buhari's stunning win, challenges loom

MICHELLE FAUL
Associated Press

ABUJA, Nigeria (AP) — As Nigerians celebrated the electrifying victory Wednesday that returned one of its harshest former dictators to power, sobering challenges confront Muhammadu Buhari, from an Islamic insurgency that has killed thousands to widespread poverty and graft. The 72-year-old Buhari made history as the first opposition party candidate to win elections in Africa's most populous nation, ending President Goodluck Jonathan's bid for another term. For a former general who three decades ago led Nigeria following a coup, it was an amazing transformation to a democratically elected president. Fresh from his victory, Buhari warned the country's brutal Boko Haram insurgents that he would be coming after them. "Boko Haram will soon know the strength of our will and commitment to rid this nation of terror," he said Wednesday as he received a certificate attesting to his victory. "We shall spare no effort until we defeat terrorism."

The bespectacled president-elect also warned that corruption would not be tolerated after he takes office on May 29.

As Nigeria's leader three decades ago, he returned looted state assets to government coffers, but his so-called "war against indiscipline" also sent soldiers into the streets with whips to enforce traffic laws and imposed humiliating punishment on tardy civil servants. His regime executed drug dealers, jailed journalists critical of the government and passed laws that allowed indefinite deten-

tion without trial.

Buhari, who insists he has undergone radical change since then and now embraces democracy, pledged Wednesday to take on the twin scourges of corruption and an Islamic uprising he said has "challenged Nigeriatio its limits." "Corruption attacks and seeks to destroy our national institutions and character ... distorts the economy and creates a class of unjustly enriched people," Buhari said, wearing splendid white robes with gold embroidery. "Such an illegal yet powerful force soon comes to undermine democracy because it has amassed so much money that they believe they can buy government."

Boko Haram, whose barbarous campaign to establish an Islamic "caliphate" has driven 1.5 million from their homes, kidnapped hundreds of schoolgirls and left large swathes of northern Nigeria burned to ashes, has in recent weeks been hit hard by forces from Nigeria and neighboring Chad, Cameroon and Niger.

Buhari ruled Nigeria for less than 20 months before be-



Nigerian former Gen. Muhammadu Buhari speaks moments after he was presented with a certificate to show he won the election in Abuja, Nigeria, Wednesday, April 1, 2015. Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan conceded defeat to Buhari, a 72-year-old former military dictator, who was elected in a historic transfer of power following the nation's most hotly contested election ever. (AP Photo/Sunday Alamba)

ing deposed by a coup in 1985 amid wide dissatisfaction that he had been slow to overcome the nation's economic problems.

It may be deja vu for Buhari when he takes over the presidency: Nigeria's economy, Africa's biggest, is suffering again

because of low oil prices. The country is Africa's biggest oil exporter and the government is heavily dependent on oil sales for its revenues. The 2015 budget has already been slashed because of slumping oil prices, and the value of the local naira currency has

plummeted.

New scanners to confirm voters' biometric identity cards are credited with reducing voter fraud — a factor in previous elections — though the machines did not work at about 300 of the 150,000 polling stations. □

Israel reports successful test of missile-defense system

JOSEF FEDERMAN
Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli officials announced Wednesday that a joint U.S.-Israeli missile-defense system has successfully passed a new test and is expected to be operational next year — a development that would provide an important tool in protecting the country against Hezbollah militants in Lebanon.

The Defense Ministry said the David's Sling system had successfully inter-

cepted targets in a series of tests conducted with the U.S. Missile Defense Agency, calling it a "major milestone." "We believe that next year it's going to be operational," Defense Minister Moshe Yaalon told journalists at an appearance with visiting U.S. House Speaker John Boehner. With Boehner nodding in agreement, Yaalon said the project was an example of strong U.S.-Israeli relations. David's Sling is meant to counter medium-

range missiles possessed by enemies throughout the region, most notably Hezbollah. The militant group, which battled Israel during a monthlong war in 2006, is believed to possess tens of thousands of rockets and missiles. The system also aims to protect against low-altitude cruise missiles fired from longer distances. David's Sling is part of what Israel calls a "multi-layer" missile defense system that includes the Arrow, which is being developed

to intercept longer-range missiles from Iran, and the Iron Dome rocket-defense system, which is already operational. The test was announced as world powers were trying to wrap up a nuclear agreement with Iran. Israel has objected to the emerging agreement, saying much of Iran's nuclear infrastructure would remain intact. It also has said Iran's continued development of long-range missiles is a sign of Iran's bad intentions. □

Flames engulf Mexico oil platform in Gulf, killing 4 workers

MARK STEVENSON
Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — A huge ball of flames engulfed an oil platform in the Gulf of Mexico on Wednesday, killing four people and sending terrified workers leaping into the sea. State-run oil company Petroleos Mexicanos, or Pemex, said there was no

evidence of a major oil spill following the blast, which also injured 16 workers, two seriously, and forced the evacuation of 300. Firefighters were still working to put out the fire, which was consuming the oil that was on the platform, Pemex Director General Emilio Lozoya said late Wednesday afternoon,

adding that efforts were "on the right track." Eight firefighting boats were being used. Speaking at a news conference in the nearby city of Ciudad del Carmen, Lozoya said the cause of the fire was still being investigated, but it appeared to be something mechanical. Helicopters ferried work-

ers with bandaged hands and faces and burn marks on their overalls to Ciudad del Carmen, where crowds of relatives of oil workers thronged outside hospitals. A survivor of the blaze on the shallow-water Abkatun-A Permanente platform in the Campeche Sound said workers "jumped into the sea out of desperation

and panic." "There was nothing you could do but run," said Roger Arias Sanchez, an employee of Pemex contractor Cotemar who escaped the burning platform in an evacuation boat. Many of the injured appeared to be Cotemar employees. □

On Cuban isle once home to Americans, a look back and ahead

MILEXSY DURAN
Associated Press

ISLA DE LA JUVENTUD, Cuba (AP) — Fidelia Rodriguez looks at photos of the Smith family, the Americans who once owned the home she has lived in all her life. She lives behind the big house where the Smiths raised their children, a property now owned by the Cuban state. Her home was the servants' quarters.

She was just 11 years old in 1960, with Cuba engulfed in revolutionary fervor, when armed men stormed the Smith home and told Rodriguez's father that it was being confiscated by the revolution. During the commotion, her father suffered a heart attack and died, leaving Fidelia and her six siblings fatherless. The government gave the servants' quarters of the expropriated property to her mother and the children.

"I don't feel I am a stranger to this land here, because the state gave me this land," Rodriguez says. "I don't feel like an intruder living here, because the state gave it to me, and

before I had nothing." Her neighbor, Raul Cabot Blanco, says the house he lives in belonged to "El Americano," according to his parents, although he

lived behind the church. After they died, this house became a family inheritance," he said. Although he doesn't know the name of those who



In this Friday, March 20, 2015 photo, Fidelia Rodriguez and her son Camilo hold old photos of U.S. citizen Daniel Smith and his family from before the Cuban Revolution in the Isle of Pines, Cuba. Fidelia's father worked as a gardener for the Smiths before the family's property was confiscated by the new government.

(AP Photo/Milexsy Duran)

wasn't even born when the home was confiscated and turned over to his family. Family lore, he says, has it that the home was a gift.

"The American, before he died here, gave this house to my grandparents, who

owned the property before, he, like other residents of this windswept island, knows it was built by an American family, part of a thriving expatriate community on what was then called the Isle of Pines.

There were people like the Browns, founders of the little town of Columbia and large landowners with fields of citrus for export to the U.S., and their neighbors, the Millses, who owned a steamship and a hotel, who made their lives here.

A cemetery attests to the numbers and lives of the Americans who lived, worked and died on this small island, once a pirate haven, a penal colony and later a flourishing source of agricultural products for sale on the big island of Cuba and the U.S.

A headstone with the name Estefania Koenig and the dates 1886-1981 shows how long the American presence endured here. She was the last American to live and die on what became the Isle of Youth after Fidel Castro's revolution swept the country.

Now, just the ruins of their homes and businesses and some other buildings remain: An old school, the bones of a long-defunct gold mine, a tumbling-down hotel, all ghosts from an American past.

Americans were living on the island from the early 1800s; a treaty gave Cuba territorial control over it in 1825. It wasn't until the 1959 revolution that Americans were swept off the island and from Cuban shores amid the Cold War. More than five decades later, relations are beginning to warm up again, and perhaps the long absence of Americans from Cuba and the Isle of Youth may be coming to an end. Contentious issues over lost land, homes and businesses will have to be resolved before the transition is complete.

Guillermo McIntosh, historian of the island, says the American presence remains indelibly etched there and is part of the history of Cuba. He imagines American visitors as relations improve.

"We would receive them (Americans) very well and welcome any gesture by a citizen, organization or other group who want to salvage this historical memory," he says, while showing a map of the 200 graves of U.S. citizens buried on the island. □

Lacking faith in government, Mexican parents approach cartel

EDUARDO CASTILLO
Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Some of the families of 43 college students missing in southern Mexico since September say desperation and a lack of confidence in the government drove them to appeal to the leader of a drug gang for help in locating their sons.

After months of investigation, Mexican officials concluded a different drug

gang killed and incinerated the young men. But six months after the disappearance, and with only one of the missing identified through a bone fragment, parents are asking the leader of a rival gang to share what he knows. A banner hung Tuesday near Iguala, the city where the students disappeared, asks Santiago Mazari Hernandez, the alleged leader of Los Rojos gang,

to "help us find our sons." Mazari had seemingly offered assistance to the families through his own signs hung in February.

"We are desperate and wherever the information comes from we will accept it, but it has to be true, too," Epifanio Alvarez, father of missing student Jorge Alvarez Nava, said Wednesday.

Alvarez said the families have no confidence in the

government and are turning to anyone for help. "It is as if there is no government," he said.

"We even put the phone number of a father there so that whoever has information can call us, pass on a tip or something," Alvarez added. As of Wednesday afternoon they had not received a call, he said.

According to the Mexican government's account, students from the

Rural Normal School at Ayotzinapa travelled to Iguala on Sept. 26 to steal buses. Before they could leave the city, Iguala police confronted them under orders from the mayor and opened fire, killing six people.

The police later turned the students over to members of the Guerreros Unidos gang, which took them to a garbage dump outside Cocula, prosecutors say. □



In conjunction with Arion Wine Company:

Winegrower Eric Wente Visits Aruba for the 10th Annual Wente Vineyards & Papiamento Restaurant Golf Tournament



TIERRA DEL SOL - Eric Wente, of Wente Vineyards just recently visited Aruba to host the annual golf event, organized in conjunction with successful local wine purveyor, Arion wine Company, and famed Papiamento Restaurant.

The tournament program included a welcome reception for players and sponsors at Papiamento Restaurant on Friday, March, 27, while the tournament was played at Tierra del Sol Golf Course, on Saturday, March 28.

The popular event enjoyed total support from the local golf community, with 128 enthusiastic players signed up for the purpose of fundraising for 'Telefon pa Hubentud,' a children's help-line.

The help-line was picked as this year's recipient of the funds, in gratitude for its important contribution to child welfare on the island, as it empowers youngsters with information, choices and emotional support.

Eric Wente, Chairman of the Board at Wente Vineyard also serves as the brand ambassador tirelessly crisscrossing the world to promote his palate-pleasing, quality wines.

Wente Vineyard, he explains, California's oldest, continuously operated, family-owned winery, is lead today by the fourth and fifth generations of the Wente family, marking its

132nd anniversary. As wine makers, the family blends traditional, innovative and scientific winemaking practices, so that the winery consistently maintain its leadership role in the California winegrowing community, and produces an outstanding portfolio of fine wines.

The winery, Wente proudly reports, has never suspended its operation and even during more than a decade of prohibition, it continued making wines because wine was treated differently than other types of alcohol, for reasons of its role in religious ceremonies, particularly mass. Consequently at the end of prohibition the winery was up and running, and ready to respond to market demands.

The ever enthusiastic, and eloquent Wente shares that the winery draws from approximately 3,000 acres of sustainably farmed estate vineyards to create its well-liked Chardonnays, Cabernet Sauvignons, Merlots and Sauvignon Blancs. Located just east of San Francisco in the historic Livermore Valley, Wente Vineyards is recognized as one of California's premier wine country destinations, featuring wine tasting, fine dining and championship golf. California wine and the California wine country lifestyle are recognized and appreciated worldwide,"

says Eric Wente, "And our family is dedicated to making superb wines, sustainably produced and affordably priced."

On a personal note, Wente brings a truly global perspective to the family business as he is very involved internationally with the controlled appellations, designed to define and protect the geographical indication used to identify where the grapes for a wine were grown. He is also highly involved in the drive to incorporate improvements and efficiencies into the winemaking system combining traditions and a modern approach.

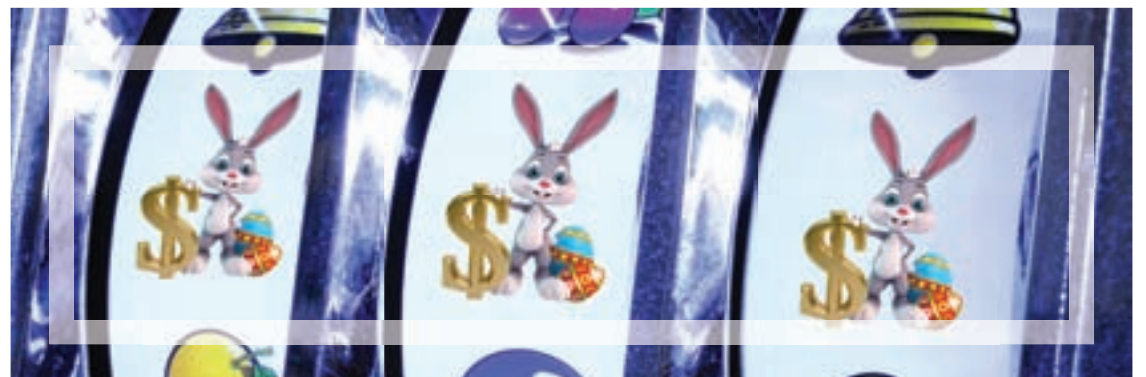
As the Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Wine Institute, Wente also serves as the Chairman of



the Wine Institute's International Policy Committee, and is the Chairman of the Research and Education Committee. In these roles, he contributes not just to his own brand but also to the entire industry, in areas of winemaking, sustainability,

hospitality, sales and marketing.

Raised at the winery, he is proud of his own two children, Christine and Karl, who are both actively involved in the family business as Fifth Generation Winegrowers. □



Enjoy *Easter Sunday* at Hyatt Casino.

Come celebrate with us and choose one of the lucky Easter baskets with lots of cash prizes.

Sunday, April 5, 2015

4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Hyatt. You're more than welcome.



HYATT
REGENCY

For more information, please contact our Players Advantage Club at 586-1234 ext. 4583.

HYATT, Hyatt Hotels & Resorts® and Hyatt Regency Aruba Resort, Spa & Casino® designs and related marks are trademarks of Hyatt Corporation ©2015 Hyatt Corporation. All rights reserved.

Sunday April 5th
EASTER EGG HUNT
at De Palm Island
 You Won't Want To Leave

attractive PRIZES

- All-Inclusive F&B
- Beach Relaxation
- Snorkeling
- Water Park

- Banana Boat
- Human Foosball
- Salsa Lessons
- And More...

Tickets: hotel concierge desk or at De Palm Island (Balashi) | depalmisland.com | (+297)522-4500 | Directions: 2 miles south past the airport and follow signs

[f /depalmisland](https://www.facebook.com/depalmisland)

Win prizes!

Exciting Easter Egg Hunt at De Palm Island!



BALASHI - Sunday April 5 De Palm Island hosts an exciting Easter Egg Hunt for young and old. You will have the chance to win spectacular prizes like dinners for two, a watch, free tickets for different tours like the Seaworld Explorer (semi submarine) or Sunset Sail with Palm Pleasure. All

fabulous trips where you will enjoy the island of Aruba in a different way. Book your tickets to De Palm Island now, sign up for the Easter Egg Hunt after arriving and take home those prizes!

De Palm Island is located in Balashi and is Aruba's only all-inclusive desti-



nation at an affordable all-inclusive price. Whether you are a family looking for a day of fun and adventure together or a couple seeking to escape the hustle and bustle of the busy beach area for some relaxation and pampering, this island offers something for everyone! Just bring your towel, swimwear and camera and enjoy. A day at De Palm Island includes food and beverage, beaches and beach chairs, palapas, unlimited banana boat rides,

a water park, snorkeling and guided snorkel tours, beach games and much more.

Tickets for De Palm Island are for sale online via www.depalmisland.com, at your hotel concierge desk, at De Palm Tours Sales Center (LG Smith Blvd., one block from Certified) or at Port de Palm (when going to the island in Balashi). For more information visit our website or www.facebook.com/depalmisland, your concierge or call (+297) 522-4500. □



RENAISSANCE MALL
IS OPEN ON EASTER MONDAY
APRIL 6
10AM - 2PM

R
 RENAISSANCE[®]
 MALL

MARCH 23RD TO APRIL 5TH



MICHELE
WATCHES

Pick an Egg and you could

WIN A WATCH!

Present this invitation
at one of our stores
for your chance to win a
Michele Jellybean watch!



ARUBA
ROYAL PLAZA • THE OCCIDENTAL • THE HOLIDAY INN



CURAÇAO
THE RENAISSANCE MALL, OTROBANDA

Culinary Enchantment Awaits at Carambola Restaurant



EAGLE BEACH - Carambola is the perfect choice for a memorable culinary experience in Aruba. Located at Paradise Beach Villas on Eagle Beach opposite



La Cabana Resort, Carambola Restaurant features International cuisine with a touch of the Caribbean. Our talented Chef creates fresh menu choices daily highlighting Caribbean flavors intriguingly melded with international cuisine. A large selection of fresh fish dishes, including our daily Red Snapper specials, and premium steaks and chops are accompanied by innovative appetizers and salads, as well as decadent



dessert offerings. We also offer amazing specials on Wednesdays and Fridays too! Our full bar and captivating wine list complements

the extensive menu. Named #1 Restaurant on Restaurants.com in 2012, and Awarded "One of the Top Restaurants" on Aruba on Trip Advisor.

'Resort Casual' attire, all major credit cards accepted, we are open for Dinner 5:30pm - 10:30pm. Reservations Welcomed - Call (297) 587-6695! ☐

EASTER

BINGO

Monday, April 6 • 1pm

8 games to Play!

AWG. 15.00 / \$ 8.50

for 4 Cards!

Progressive within 50 calls.

AWG. 48,000 / \$26,667*

*Progressive amount unless hit before 4/06/15. **Except on Progressive

\$500

Progressive within 51 Calls

\$300

Progressive within 52 Calls

\$200

Progressive within 53+ Calls

Game 1 Letter X \$75 | **Game 2** Large Diamonds \$75 | **Game 3** Lucky 7 \$100 | **Game 4** Letter H \$100
Game 5 + or Cross \$150 | **Game 6** Postage Stamps \$200 | **Game 7** Letter T \$300 | **Game 8** Full Card \$700

Win an additional \$200 when you cover all 4 corners within 8 calls!

Double your prize with POWERBALL!*

 | Special Easter Door Prizes!

Amounts shown in U.S. Dollars where noted.

Alhambra

CASINO AND SHOPS

Open daily 10am to 4am • J.E. Irausquin Blvd #47

583.5000 • casinoalhambra.com

Fuzzy Bunny Mimosas and Easter Egg Hunt at Bugaloe This Easter Sunday!



PALM BEACH – While it is a true Aruban tradition to enjoy food at home on Easter with family and friends, Bugaloe Beach Bar & Grill would like to invite you this Easter Sunday for a special event. Bugaloe is located on De Palm Pier between the Radisson Resort and Riu Hotel and this Easter

Sunday April 5th the beach bar is opening its doors and invites everyone to enjoy the Bugaloe Easter experience. Walk right in, and enjoy a delicious Easter egg salad sandwich for \$7,- and a Fuzzy Bunny Mimosa made of carrot juice, orange juice, sparkling wine and



dash of cayenne for only \$6,-. Enjoy this special meal with live music, stunning 360 degree views and the most relaxing atmosphere on the island. To top off the day Bugaloe is organizing an Easter egg hunt for kids and adults! You're never too old to enjoy a good re-

warding hunt! Throughout the bar 10 eggs are hidden with a special gift inside. The prizes range from a free shirt to a free drink or shot! Never been to Bugaloe before? Come in anytime of the day, and enjoy the relaxing Caribbean

vibes while overlooking the beautiful turquoise Aruban Ocean. What better way to discover Bugaloe than tomorrow? For more information on Easter or upcoming events, visit: www.facebook.com/bugaloe.aruba / www.bugaloe.com



America's Cup teams vote to downsize boats

BERNIE WILSON
AP Sports Writer

SAN DIEGO (AP) — America's Cup teams have voted to reduce the size of boats to be sailed in the 2017 regatta in Bermuda, a cost-cutting move that could lead to the two strongest challengers dropping out.

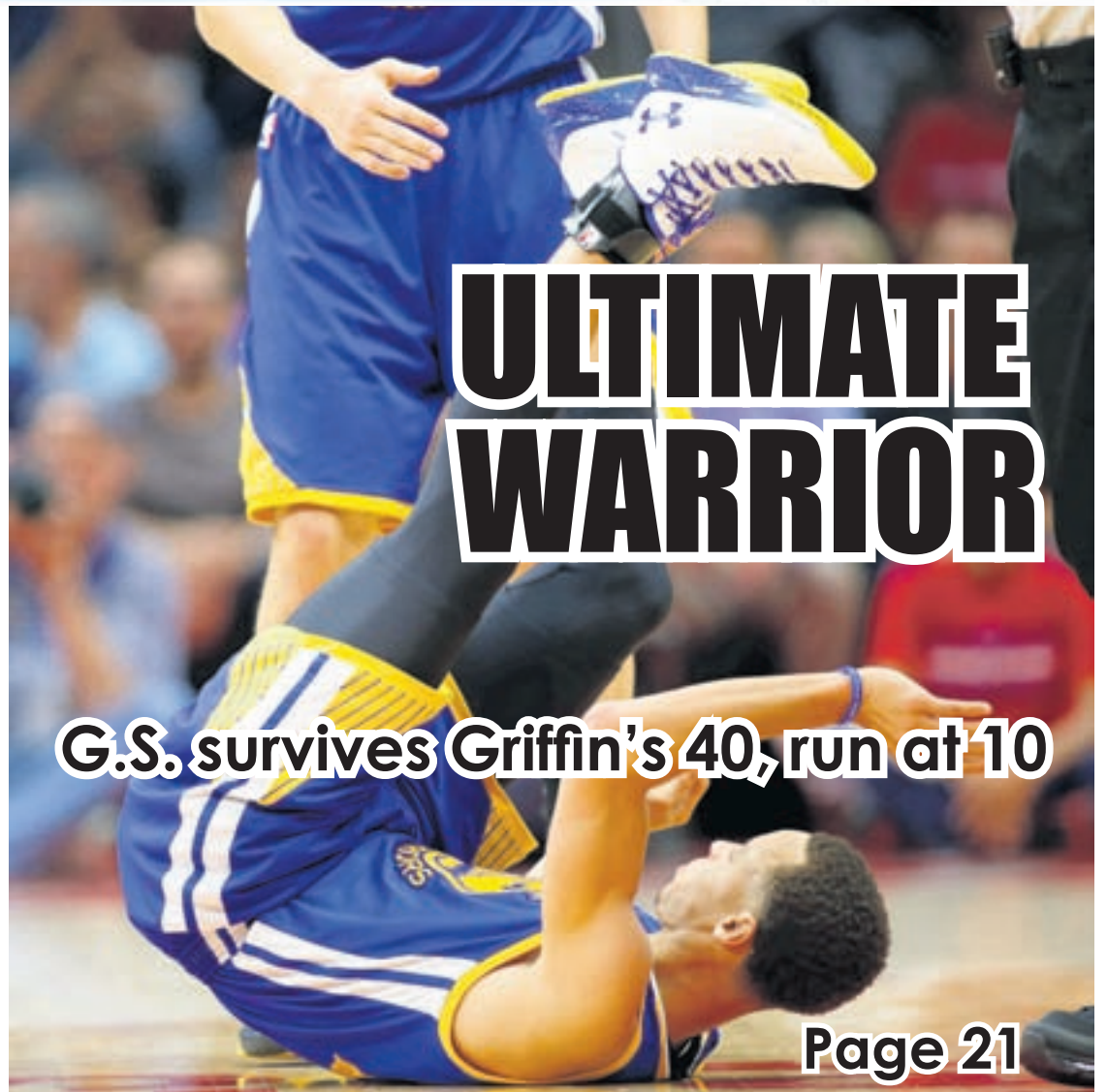
In a statement Tuesday night, organizers said a majority of teams favored the move from 62-foot (19-meter) catamarans to 48-foot (14.65-meter) cats.

They also said a majority of teams supported having the entire race take place in Bermuda, eliminating a qualifying regatta in Auckland, New Zealand — a move that could cost Team New Zealand its primary funding source. It's believed Italy's Luna

Rossa and Emirates Team New Zealand voted against the unprecedented proposal to change the size of the boats in mid-cycle.

Luna Rossa said last week it "will be obliged to withdraw" if the race boat was downsized. Team New Zealand supported the Italians. On eliminating the Auckland regatta, Emirates Team New Zealand said on its Twitter account that it has filed for arbitration to reinstate the qualifier based on a signed and accepted bid. "We are fighting to keep Auckland as a qualifier," Team New Zealand general manager Grant Dalton told New Zealand media on Wednesday.

Continued on Page 22



ULTIMATE WARRIOR

G.S. survives Griffin's 40, run at 10

Page 21

SEAPORT CASINO STARTS APRIL 6 2015

MONDAY

- SPIN & WIN WITH UP TO \$300 IN CASH PRIZES
- TRIPLE THE POINTS 4 PM - 9 PM

TUESDAY

- CASH BACK
- \$675 IN CASH PRIZES
- DOUBLE THE POINTS 10 AM - 1 PM

WEDNESDAY

- BLACK JACK TOURNAMENT \$500 IN CASH PRIZES
\$5 BUY IN / RE-BUY \$5 OR 25 POINTS MADE ON SAME DAY. REGISTRATION AT 5 PM TOURNAMENT STARTS 7 PM
- RECEIVE DOUBLE TICKETS 4 PM - 6 PM

THURSDAY

- SLOT TOURNAMENT MORE THEN \$625 IN CASH PRIZES + BUY IN & RE-BUY MONEY
\$5 BUY IN / \$3 RE-BUY OR 15 POINTS MADE ON SAME DAY. REGISTRATION AT 6 PM TOURNAMENT STARTS 8 PM

FRIDAY

- \$700 IN CASH PRIZES

SATURDAY

- \$900 IN CASH PRIZES

SUNDAY

- FOUR TIMES THE POINTS 10 AM - 1 PM & 6 PM - 8 PM

Must accumulate 25 points during the week to be eligible to participate * every 25 points is one ticket*
Management reserves the right to change or cancel any promotion.
For more information please contact our Playerscenter at 5836000 ext 6437



MAKE YOUR WISH COME TRUE
AT SEAPORT CASINO



TASTE OF BELGIUM

RESTAURANT

Free WIFI

The largest Belgian beer selection on the island!

Daily Happy Hour 2 for 1 from 5 pm – 7 pm

Sunday à la carte brunch, \$42 pp

Palm Beach Plaza Mall | T: +297 586 6388 | www.tasteofbelgium.aw

Open daily 8 am – 12 midnight | breakfast | lunch | dinner | drinks

Facebook icon | TripAdvisor icon | Best For Families And Casual Dining



Serena Williams earns 700th win to reach Miami Open semis

STEVEN WINE

AP Sports Writer

KEY BISCAIYNE, Fla. (AP) —

Serena Williams abused her racket, scolded herself and even made angry faces at the sun.

In the end, as usual, she took out her frustration on the ball.

The seven-time Key Biscayne champion overcame her annoyance and shaky play Wednesday for her 700th career victory, beating Sabine Lisicki 7-6 (4), 1-6, 6-3 to reach the semifinals of the Miami Open.

Williams won despite an unreliable serve, a poor second set and 51 unforced errors. She looked flatfooted and listless at times, and seemed especially vexed when playing on the side looking

into the sun.

"It's always tough on that side," she said. "You just don't see. You just have to adjust."

She did, earning her 16th consecutive victory on Key Biscayne, where she's the two-time defending champion.

"I know today wasn't my best day," she said. "I just told myself, I'm not serving the way I normally serve and hitting the way I normally would hit, so at this point all I can do is just fight and try to give 200 percent instead of 100 percent."

She improved her career record to 700-120 and was presented with a cake on the court. Andy Murray received a similar honor following his 500th victory Tuesday



Serena Williams poses with a cake celebrating her 700th career win after she defeated Sabine Lisicki during their quarterfinal match at the Miami Open tennis tournament, Wednesday, April 1, 2015, in Key Biscayne, Fla.

Associated Press

"I think my destiny was to play tennis," Williams said. "I saw a picture where I was in a stroller on the tennis court."

The No. 1-seeded Williams withdrew before the Indian Wells semifinal earlier this month with a right knee injury, but she has won 19 consecutive matches this year. Her opponent Thursday will be the winner of the match Wednesday night between unseeded American Sloane Stephens and No. 3 Simona Halep.

For much of her quarterfinal, Williams trailed in fist pumps and points, and her frustration quickly showed. After losing three consecutive games to fall behind 4-3 in the first set, the Floridian pounded the court with her racket and drew jeers in the stadium she considers her home court.

Williams won the first set only because Lisicki wobbled in the tiebreaker, hitting three shots into the net before double-faulting on the final point.

Williams played even worse in the second set, losing six games in a row, but then began to grunt louder and hit harder, with positive results. She earned the only break of the final set in the second game and held from there, serving out the match at love.

"Come on!" she shouted when it ended, as if already gearing up for the semifinal.

Tournament officials then rolled out the cake, with pink, green and purple frosting. What's her favorite kind?

"Vanilla," she said.

It wasn't really Williams' day, but she won anyway. □

GREAT OPPORTUNITY



Pre-construction own a piece of the rock

For information cellular (297) 594-5275 or send an email.

E-mail address: info@diportadelsole.com | www.diportadelsole.com



Stores open from
5pm - 10pm
on Easter Sunday and
Easter Monday!

Kids Easter Weekend

SATURDAY • SUNDAY • MONDAY
APRIL 4, 5 & 6 STARTING AT 6:00 PM

Hop on for some FUN!

- DJ Hosting, Fun Games, Dance and Contests
- Dino Jump & Bumper Boats • Face Paintings
- Egg Hunt • Craft Station (doodle art)
- Picture Station with Easter Bunny



**KIDS
EAT
FREE!**

with each adult meal



Dollar to Florin
for the local
market (with ID)



Buy one Yologurt (16oz)
and get one FREE (8oz)
3PM - 7PM

VCB

Shoes & Accessories

45% OFF
Selected Items

PASEO HERENCIA SHOPPING MALL • J.E. Irausquin BLVD 382
Parking available in Paseo Parking Garage at Afl. 1.75 per hour
FREE parking weekdays till 12noon and weekends till 5pm

f You Tube
#paseoherencia
paseoherencia.com

TOUCHDOWN SPORTS BAR & GRILL

2015 NCAA FINAL FOUR INDIANAPOLIS

SATURDAY APR 4

8:00 pm - 6:00 pm **MICHIGAN STATE VS DUKES**

8:30 pm - 6:00 pm **UK VS WISCONSIN**

MONDAY / APR 6 / 9:00 PM

TOUCHDOWN SPORTS BAR & GRILL ARUBA LOCATED IN J.E. IRAUSQUIN BOULEVARD 370, INFRONT OCCIDENTAL HOTEL AND UPSTAIRS FROM I LOVE ARUBA STORE. CALL 586 6020

Tiger Woods played practice round at Augusta

AUGUSTA, Georgia (AP) — Tiger Woods played a practice round Tuesday at Augusta National, a strong indication that the four-time champion could make his return at the Masters.

Mark Steinberg, his agent at Excel Sports Management, confirmed in an email to The Associated Press that Woods played 18 holes. Still to be determined is whether he returns for the Masters next

week. Woods has not played since he withdrew at Torrey Pines on Feb. 5 after 11 holes because of tightness in his back. A week later, he said he would return to compete



Tiger Woods watches his drive from the second tee during the third round of the PGA Championship golf tournament on the Ocean Course of the Kiawah Island Golf Resort in Kiawah Island, S.C., Saturday, Aug. 11, 2012.

Associated Press

tion when his form had returned. "My play, and scores, are not acceptable for tournament golf," Woods said in a statement on Feb. 11. "Like I've said, I enter a tournament to compete at the highest level, and when I think I'm ready, I'll be back."

He has missed the Honda Classic and Arnold Palmer Invitational since the statement. Woods could make an announcement about his Masters plans this week, though it is not neces-

sary. Unlike a regular PGA Tour event, players with a Masters invitation only have to register before they tee off in the opening round on April 9. It would be unlike Woods to do that. Instead, he likely would inform the club of his plans before Sunday. The Augusta Chronicle first reported that Woods was in town after a plane matching the tail number of his Gulfstream G5 was parked at the terminal for private aircraft at Augusta Regional Airport. Woods has dropped to No. 104 in the world, his lowest ranking since 1996, just before his first victory. He has not recorded a top-10 finish since the end of 2013. And his limited golf this year has been the worst of his career. Woods shot 82 in the Phoenix Open when he missed the cut. He hit standard chips that didn't reach the green or sailed 30 yards long during the 47 holes he has played this year. Woods played in the 2010 Masters without having competed in nearly five months. He tied for fourth that year, though he was No. 1 in the world and his previous tournament was a victory in the Australian Masters. □

APRIL 5 4:00PM

Easter Sunday BINGO!

Win up to **\$3,500** IN CASH PRIZES

- * 58 for 9 games / 51 Progressive
- * Plus 2x progressive Powerball
- * Buy a stamp for \$2 for a chance to double your prizes
- * Full card starts at \$2,000
- * Raffles We will have 200 EGGS with CASH, Slots credit and Prizes for grabs. Grand prize Afl. 1,000. First 100 will receive the change to pull one of the 200 eggs from the raffle drum

TROP

MORE FUN, MORE VALUE, MORE VARIETY CLUB & CASINO

J.E. IRAUSQUIN BLVD. 248, ARUBA, DUTCH CARIBBEAN | TROPARUBA.COM | (297) 527-9164

A TROPICANA ENTERTAINMENT CASINO TROPICANACASINOS.COM

Management reserves the right to change or cancel promotions at their discretion. Must be 18 years of age or older. Must be a member of the Trop Advantage® Club to participate. Play responsibly www.gamblersanonymous.org.

NBA Capsules

Curry scores 27 to rally Warriors past Clippers



Golden State Warriors' Stephen Curry, left, dribbles behind his back while Los Angeles Clippers' Chris Paul, right, falls to the court during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Tuesday, March 31, 2015, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Stephen Curry scored 27 points and Klay Thompson had 25 as the Golden State Warriors held off the Los Angeles Clippers 110-106 Tuesday for their 10th consecutive victory. David Lee added 17 points for the Warriors, who had lost four in a row at Staples Center. Los Angeles had won seven in a row. Blake Griffin had 40 points, 12 rebounds and five assists. Chris Paul had 27 points and nine assists, and J.J. Redick finished with 14 points. Paul's layup drew the Clippers to 106-104 with 12 seconds left, but he was called for a back-court violation taking an inbound pass from DeAndre Jordan with nine seconds left. Thompson and Curry combined for four straight free throws to close out the win for the Pacific Division champions.

NETS 111, PACERS 106

NEW YORK (AP) — Brook Lopez had 24 points and 11 rebounds, and Brooklyn reclaimed sole possession of eighth place in the Eastern Conference with its season-high fourth straight victory. The Nets moved back ahead of Boston and dealt a blow to the Pacers, who fell 1 1/2 games behind Brooklyn. They will visit the Celtics on Wednesday. Joe Johnson added 21 points, including five straight after the Pacers got within three with about 2 minutes left. Alan Anderson scored 20. Brooklyn won for the sixth time in seven games and claimed the tiebreaker with Indiana by winning the season series. George Hill scored 28 points for the Pacers, who lost for the eighth time in 10 games. Indiana starting guard C.J. Miles, who averaged 27 points in his previous two games, sprained his right ankle

in the first quarter and played just six minutes. **SPURS 95, HEAT 81** MIAMI (AP) — Kawhi Leonard scored 22 points and Tony Parker added 16 in his 1,000th NBA game, leading the Spurs to the road win. Tim Duncan had 12 points and 11 rebounds for San Antonio, which went 12-3 in March — the league's second-best record during the month behind only Golden State. Boris Diaw scored 11 points. Goran Dragic had 19 points and Dwyane Wade added 15 for Miami. Chris Andersen grabbed 10 rebounds. San Antonio stayed No. 6 in the West, and could clinch a playoff berth Wednesday in Orlando. The Heat remained in the No. 7 spot in the Eastern Conference race but now are two losses behind No. 6 Milwaukee and only a half-game up on Brooklyn. **PISTONS 105, HAWKS 95** AUBURN HILLS, Michigan

(AP) — Andre Drummond had 22 points and 13 rebounds, powering Detroit to the victory. Anthony Tolliver had 13 points and 10 rebounds for the Pistons, who have won five of six. Reggie Jackson collected 12 points and 11 assists despite being limited to four-minute stints in each of the last three quarters by an illness.

Tolliver made his eighth consecutive start in place of Greg Monroe, who is out with a right knee injury. Thabo Sefolosha scored 19 points for Atlanta, while Al Horford had 16 on 8-of-11 shooting. The Hawks, who have clinched the Eastern Conference's top seed for the playoffs, have dropped two of three. □



MEGAPLEX 8
caribbeancinemas.com/aruba

LIKE OUR NEW FACEBOOK PAGE

f Caribbean Cinemas Aruba

APRIL 2 - 8

NEW THIS WEEK!



VIN DIESEL | PAUL WALKER
FURIOUS 7
3D VERSION PG-13
MON-THURS 5:15 | 8:15 | 9:20
FRI 5:15 | 8:15 | 9:20 | 11:15
SAT 2:15 | 5:15 | 8:15 | 9:20 | 11:15
SUN & HOL 2:15 | 5:15 | 8:15 | 9:20
2D VERSION
MON-THURS 4:30 | 6:20 | 7:30 | 9:30
FRI 4:30 | 6:20 | 7:30 | 9:30 | 10:30
SAT 1:30 | 3:20 | 4:30 | 6:20 | 7:30
9:30 | 10:30
SUN & HOL 1:30 | 3:20 | 4:30
6:20 | 7:30 | 9:30



JIM PARSONS | RIHANNA
HOME
3D VERSION PG
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON-THURS 4:20 | 6:30 | 8:40
FRI 4:20 | 6:30 | 8:40 | 10:50
SAT 2:10 | 4:20 | 6:30 | 8:40 | 10:50
SUN & HOL 2:10 | 4:20 | 6:30 | 8:40
2D VERSION
SPANISH
MON-FRI 5:10
SAT, SUN & HOL 3:00 | 5:10
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON-FRI 5:10 | 7:20
SAT, SUN & HOL 3:00 | 5:10 | 7:20

ALSO SHOWING!



SHAILENE WOODLEY | ANSEL ELGORT
INSURGENT
PG-13
MON-THURS 4:25 | 6:55 | 9:30
FRI 4:25 | 6:55 | 9:30 | 12:05
SAT 1:55 | 4:25 | 6:55 | 9:30 | 12:05
SUN & HOL 1:55 | 4:25 | 6:55 | 9:30



LILY JAMES | CATE BLANCHETT
CINDERELLA
PG
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON-THURS 4:30 | 7:00
FRI 4:30 | 7:00
SAT 2:00 | 4:30 | 7:00
SUN & HOL 2:00 | 4:30 | 7:00



LIAM NEESON | ED HARRIS
RUN ALL NIGHT
R
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON-THURS 7:20 | 9:40
FRI 7:20 | 9:40 | 12:00
SAT 7:20 | 9:40 | 12:00
SUN & HOL 7:20 | 9:40

STARTING NEXT WEEK | GET HARD
THE LONGEST RIDE • BLACK OR WHITE

Download our NEW APP



Palm Beach Plaza | Aruba | 586-0074

America's

Continued from Page 17

"This isn't about government funding, this is not the end of Emirates Team New Zealand, it's about enforcing a contract and bringing America's Cup racing to New Zealand as agreed by ACEA (America's Cup Events Authority)."

New Zealand Prime Minister John Key has said if the Auckland regatta doesn't take place, government funding will likely be withheld. That would make it difficult for Team New Zealand to continue competing since it doesn't have corporate sponsorship.

The decision by two-time defending champion Oracle Team USA to contest the America's Cup in Bermuda rather than in the United States has also made it difficult for some teams and the event itself to raise sponsorship mon-



In this Sept. 22, 2013 file photo, Emirates Team New Zealand maneuvers with Oracle Team USA, left, before the 14th race of the America's Cup sailing event in San Francisco.

ey.

There's some question how much the downsizing of the boats will save considering some teams have already spent several months and tens of millions of dollars designing 62-foot (19-meter) catamarans. As it was, the larger cats were

said to be a cost-saving measure over the 72-foot (22-meter) catamarans used in the 2013 America's Cup.

And while smaller boats would mean reduced costs and a smaller crew, they could also mean less excitement for spectators.

The 48-foot (14.65 meter) catamarans will be the smallest boats in America's Cup history and aren't that much bigger than other one-design classes sailed in less-prestigious regattas. If Italy and New Zealand drop out, Oracle Team USA would conceivably

Associated Press

have an easier shot at retaining the Auld Mug trophy.

Oracle Team USA rebounded from a cheating scandal and an 8-1 deficit to defeat Emirates Team New Zealand in the 2013 America's Cup, winning eight straight races in one of the biggest comebacks in the event's history.

America's Cup czar Russell Coutts, a New Zealander who heads both Oracle Team USA and the America's Cup Event Authority, has verbally sparred with both the Kiwis and Italians in recent years.

In a landmark victory, Coutts led Team New Zealand to a five-race sweep of American skipper Dennis Conner off San Diego in 1995. He then guided the Kiwis to a sweep of Luna Rossa in the 2000 America's Cup before jumping ship for a bigger paycheck from Alinghi of Switzerland, leading it to a sweep of Team New Zealand. □

NHL Capsules

Still scoring after all these years, Ovechkin gets 50th goal

By **HOWARD FENDRICH**
(AP Sports Writer)

WASHINGTON (AP) -- Alex Ovechkin is 29, and his hair is flecked with gray nowadays. His coaches and linemates keep changing, as have the ways opponents try to stop him. After 10 years in the NHL, one thing that stays the same about the guy known as Alex the Great: He can get the puck in the net. Putting his name in the company of such past hockey superstars as Wayne Gretzky, Mike Bossy and Mario Lemieux, Ovechkin is now one of only six players with at least a half-dozen 50-goal seasons. The Russian wing reached that milestone for the sixth time Tuesday night by scoring in the first period of the Washington Capitals' 4-2 victory over the Carolina Hurricanes.

"We're sort of immune to it now, really," Capitals defenseman Mike Green said with a chuckle. "We don't expect it, but it's amazing how he does it every year. It's one of the most difficult things to do, and he seems to find a way to accomplish that, season after season."

As the rookie of the year in 2005-06, Ovechkin scored 52 goals. He had a career-best 65 two seasons later, followed by 56, then 50. After three seasons in a row with fewer than 40 goals, he regained his touch a year ago with 51.

"Much different than my first year. They give more attention to where we are. They put the best guys, best defensive line, against us," Ovechkin said. "Obviously, if you have two or three shots on net, you have to score one."

On Tuesday, he had four shots, and his goal was the 472nd of his career, pulling even with Peter Bondra for the most by a Capitals player.

Later against Carolina, Ovechkin recorded his 419th career assist, passing Michal Pivonka for No. 2 in franchise history, three behind current teammate Nicklas Backstrom.

Ovechkin and Backstrom have spent much of their time in the league as linemates, but with the season heading into its final two weeks, first-year Capitals coach Barry Trotz shook things up last weekend, separating his two best offensive threats.

How did that work out? In two games alongside Evgeny Kuznetsov and Joel Ward, Ovechkin has three goals and one assist.

Trotz also moved Ovechkin moved back to left wing, his primary position for most of his career. A year ago under previous coach Adam Oates, though, Ovechkin played mostly on the right side.

When Oates became the fourth coach to depart the Capitals during Ovechkin's tenure, whispers resurfaced about whether the player was too tough to deal with. Trotz heard that talk - and says now it was unfounded.

"It's way better than expectations coming in. All the things that people were telling me were false and untrue. It's been a joy to work with Alex and be a part of the same group that he's with," Trotz said. "It's been really enlightening to me, and I'm trying to make it enlightening to everybody else that this is a good hockey player that can do some special things."

Only Gretzky and Bossy, with nine 50-goal seasons each, have reached the half-century mark more often than Ovechkin. Lemieux, Marcel Dionne and Guy Lafleur had six apiece.

"I mean, the potential there to put up staggering numbers, all-time numbers, is incredible.



Washington Capitals left wing Alex Ovechkin (8), of Russia, celebrates his goal against the Carolina Hurricanes during the first period of an NHL hockey game, Tuesday, March 31, 2015, in Washington. It was Ovechkin's 50th goal of the year.

Associated Press

He's almost at 500 before he's 30 years old," Capitals forward Brooks Laich said. "And his game has changed, too. Even defenses have changed. He's done it on the left side; he's done it on the right side. ... He's a treat to play beside." □

Search, social & shopping: Pinterest turns 5

BARBARA ORTUTAY
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — In its five short years of life, Pinterest has become 'the' place where brides-to-be create wish boards of wedding china photos and do-it-yourself home renovators bookmark shiny turquoise tiles for bathrooms. It's where people share ideas and ingenuity and get creatively inspired. And it's fueled a new way of searching for items that's even stolen traffic from tech giant Google.

The San Francisco-based venture capital darling was recently valued at \$11 billion. While its core audience has always been female, Pinterest says its popularity is growing faster than ever among men. It is winning in the all-important social-mobile space — the vast majority of "pinners" connect from mobile devices — and is enjoying a healthy expansion overseas.

As Pinterest celebrates its fifth birthday this week — hopefully with perfect bacon cupcakes topped with a single, artisanal beeswax candle — here are five things to know about the site and where it's headed.

WHO USES PINTEREST?

Pinterest had 79.3 million unique visitors in February (the latest data available), up 47 percent from a year earlier, according to Internet research firm comScore. The vast major-

ity were women, but male visitors grew at a much faster clip: 62 percent for men versus 42 percent for women.

Enid Hwang is the company's community manager



In this Nov. 13, 2014 photo, Pinterest co-founder Evan Sharp poses for photos at the Pinterest office in San Francisco.

Associated Press

and the fourth employee ever hired at Pinterest. She wouldn't disclose what percentage of users are male but says Pinterest's male user base in the U.S. has doubled in the past year. She doesn't think Pinterest is for women any more than it is for men.

"At its most fundamental, we believe that Pinterest is a tool for unlocking people's creativity," she says. Pinterest often gets lumped in with popular social networks like Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, but there are plenty of ways that it stands apart. Hwang sees it as more intimate and personal. While Facebook is about sharing what you did, read or saw re-

cently with 400 of your closest "friends," Pinterest users pin stuff for their own inspiration and benefit. While others can see it, she says Pinterest people are "saving stuff that means a lot to

them personally."

"MAN TRENDS"

Popular "man trends," as Pinterest put it recently, range from do-it-yourself home projects such as making a wooden couch sleeve for your drinks, to different ways to tie knots, to the world's best hiking trails. And then there's the more unusual.

"Last year, we noticed a trend of survivalists using Pinterest," Hwang says. These pinners found "creative ways of solving what they might do if there is a zombie apocalypse," she adds, or a more mundane natural disaster. There are Pinterest boards of basement fallout shelters, disaster preparation and the

contents of survival backpacks.

After Pinterest introduced "Place Pins" in late 2013, the vast trove of pinners' travel-inspired boards became easier for people to find. Users pin photos, links and videos inspired by past trips or travel aspirations. Place Pins are designed to work sort of like an online travel magazine combined with an interactive map.

BY THE NUMBERS

— There are now more than 50 billion "pins" on Pinterest. One billion boards have been created.

— Headquartered in San Francisco, Pinterest has six international offices: in Britain, France, Germany, Japan and Brazil. More than 40 percent of Pinterest users are outside the U.S., up from 28 percent in 2013.

— About two-thirds of the content on its site was created by brands. "If we were in the magazine business, (that) would be 50 billion pages being ripped out and referenced," says Joanne Bradford, head of partnerships at Pinterest.

— Earlier this year, Pinterest raised \$367 million that valued the company at \$11 billion. It says it may raise as much as \$211 million more, and plans to use the more than half a billion dollars for international expansion and other corporate purposes.

A NEW WAY TO SEARCH AND SHOP

Pinterest's penchant for

exposing people to something new has turned its site into a learning and shopping hub that can be more useful than Google and other search engines for certain topics. Many people now go to Pinterest first when they are looking for ideas on planning a wedding, preparing an exotic dinner, planning a kids' birthday party or finding the perfect pair of shoes for a new outfit.

Pinterest co-founder Evan Sharp likens this phenomenon to "search without typing," making it particularly well suited for smartphones.

DIVERSITY

The heat is on tech companies for lacking gender and racial diversity among their employee base, especially in the highest ranks. Pinterest is no exception. At the same time, the company seems to be doing better on this front than some of its Silicon Valley counterparts. According to statistics released last July, 40 percent of the company's employees are women. This compares with 20 percent at Apple Inc. and 30 percent at Twitter Inc. and Google Inc. Among Pinterest executives though, it's a different story. Nineteen percent are women, compared with 21 percent at Google. "We're not close to where we want to be, but we're working on it," wrote Tracy Chou, a software engineer and tech lead at Pinterest, in a blog post last July. □

Google Maps turns into Pac-Man's chomping grounds

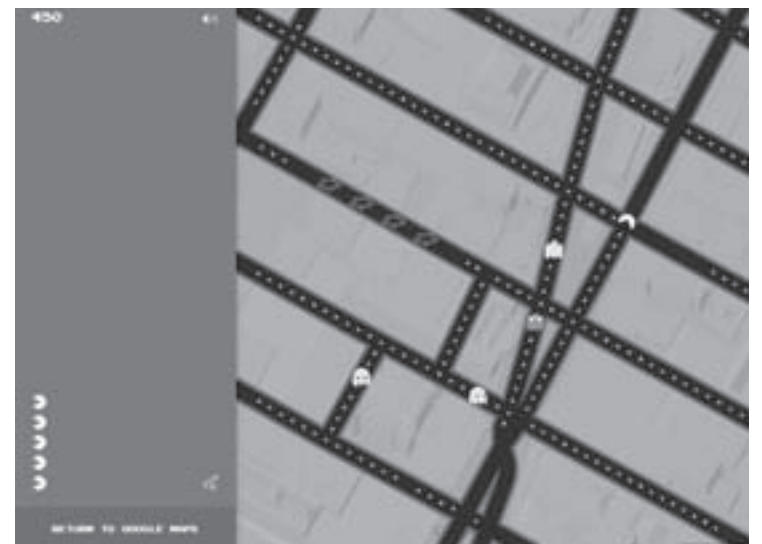
SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The virtual streets of Google Maps are being transformed into Pac Man's chomping grounds in celebration of April Fools' Day. Google added the option to convert its popular navigation service into the Pac Man video game on Tuesday morning, around the same day the calendar turned to April 1 in Asia. That ushered in a day when Google shows off its playful side by injecting more frivolity into its services.

The gag on Google Maps enables visitors to click on a Pac-Man symbol in the lower left of the screen to play the video game on whatever location is listed in the address bar. As has been happening for nearly 35 years, Pac Man eats blinking dots while trying to elude four "ghosts" — Pinky, Blinky, Inky and Clyde. The game can be played in Google Maps on desktop computers or mobile devices that have the latest app update for Apple's

iOS or Google's Android software.

This isn't the first time that Google Inc.'s engineers have paid tribute to Pac Man. In May 2010, Google tweaked the doodle on its main search page to accommodate games of Pac Man.

Planting Pac Man into maps probably won't be Google's only April Fools' stunt, based on the Mountain View, California, company's colorful past. Among other things,



This screen shot made Tuesday, March 31, 2015 shows the Times Square area of New York in Pac-Man form on Google Maps.

Associated Press

Google previously has promised to introduce search by smell, provide a

translation tool for animals and posted notices for jobs on the moon. □

Falling corn prices stalk Monsanto, sending 2Q profits lower

MATTHEW PERRONE

AP Business Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Monsanto reported lower-than-expected earnings as slumping corn prices push farmers toward other crops, crimping sales of the company's best-selling biotech corn seeds.

The St. Louis agricultural business giant reported a second-quarter profit of \$1.42 billion, or \$2.92 per

share, down from \$1.67 billion, or \$3.15 per share, in the prior year period. Sales slid to \$5.2 billion from \$5.8 billion.

Analysts surveyed by Zacks Investment Research predicted earnings of \$2.96 per share on sales of \$5.76 billion.

Monsanto's biotech seeds have genetically engineered traits that help farmers increase

their crop yield, despite their higher costs.

U.S. farmers are expected to plant fewer acres of corn for the third consecutive year in 2015, down 2 percent from last year, according to survey figures from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. More farmers are favoring soybeans because they cost less to grow and prices farmers receive for

soybeans haven't fallen as quickly as corn. Soybeans also can withstand broader weather variations. In a conference call, company executives said soybean demand is growing by more than 200 million bushels per year and Monsanto is poised to take advantage with expanding varieties. It expects to penetrate 30 million acres in South Ameri-

ca in 2016.

The positive outlook for soybean growth in South America and the U.S. helped push the company's stock higher, despite the profit miss. Shares of Monsanto Co., which have declined roughly 6 percent since the beginning of the year, rose \$2.15, or 1.9 percent, to \$114.69 in afternoon trading Wednesday. □

US stocks ease for second day; price of crude oil soars



GoDaddy CEO Blake Irving, front row right, joins the celebration during New York Stock Exchange opening bell ceremonies for his company's IPO, Wednesday, April 1, 2015. A batch of discouraging economic news deepened investors' concerns about corporate earnings, pulling major U.S. stock indexes down on Wednesday for the second day in a row.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

ALEX VEIGA

AP Business Writer

A batch of discouraging economic news deepened investors' concerns about corporate earnings,

pulling major U.S. stock indexes down on Wednesday for the second day in a row.

The modest slide cut the Standard & Poor's 500 in-

dex's gain for the year to less than one-tenth of a percent. Oil prices surged above \$50 a barrel on signs that U.S. production growth is slowing.

Payroll processor ADP said U.S. companies added fewer jobs last month than economists had expected, while an index of manufacturing activity declined for the fifth month in a row. In addition, the government said U.S. construction spending fell in February.

"The data show we definitely hit a bit of a slowdown in the first quarter, and now investors are getting worried about the upcoming earnings reports," said Chris Gaffney, a senior market strategist at EverBank Wealth Management.

Many of the stocks that fell the most on Wednesday were also some of the biggest gainers during the first three months of the year. The health care sector notched the biggest decline in the S&P 500. Even so, it's up 4.8 percent this year, leading the nine other sectors in the index.

"We've had a long, good run by the equity markets

and, at times, investors look for opportunities to maybe take some gains off the table," Gaffney said.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 77.94 points, or 0.4 percent, to 17,698.18. The 30-company index was down as much as 191 points. It's down 0.7 percent for the year.

The S&P 500 index slid 8.16 points, or 0.4 percent, to 2,059.69. The index is now up 0.04 percent for the year. The Nasdaq composite lost 20.66 points, or 0.4 percent, to 4,880.23. The tech-heavy index ended is up about 3 percent this year. Half of the 10 sectors in the S&P 500 fell. Telecommunications services led among the gainers, rising 0.8 percent.

Macerich fell the most in the index, sliding \$5.60, or 6.6 percent, to \$78.73. The company slumped after rival Simon Property Group called off its hostile \$16.8 billion takeover bid for the shopping mall operator. □

Wal-Mart seeking assist from its suppliers to lower prices

A. D'INNOCENZIO

AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Wal-Mart is asking suppliers to cut back on advertising spending in its stores as it seeks lower prices on goods that it sells to its own customers.

The request comes as the world's largest retailer, based in Bentonville, Arkansas, looks to reclaim its position as the low-price leader amid stiff competition and perk up sluggish sales in the U.S.

Historically, makers of con-

sumer products like laundry detergent devote a portion of their budget to market their products at Wal-Mart whether it's online advertising on social media or store displays. Wal-Mart executives told suppliers in February they would rather have them reinvest some of that money.

Wal-Mart Stores Inc.'s actions were first reported by The Wall Street Journal.

Deisha Barnett, a Wal-Mart spokeswoman, confirmed the strategy and said that the discounter has made

that request in the past but described the recent overture as more of a "reinvigorated focus."

Wal-Mart updated investors Wednesday on how it planned to reduce prices while revving up its assortment and improving the experience of shoppers by the holiday 2015 shopping season, the most important period for a retailer. The actions are being spearheaded by Greg Foran who last summer became CEO of Wal-Mart's U.S. business, which accounts for 60 per-

cent of its total sales.

"We want this year to be the year of improving our stores," Foran told investors. Foran, who had been president and CEO of Wal-Mart Asia, has been dissecting every part of the business, from improving the freshness of the produce to making sure merchandise is being unloaded onto the selling floor, instead of having it pile up in the backroom.

Among other measures it outlined Wednesday: reducing the price of prod-

ucts nearing their expiration date, a strategy it believes alone will save \$500 million annually. The company said that it's also looking at how it sources its products so it can reduce prices, particularly as commodity prices fall.

When asked about the latest development with suppliers, Foran just said that the company, which operates more than 4,500 Wal-Mart stores, has always negotiated the best price and passes those prices to customers. □

Ted Cruz Pop Quiz



GAIL COLLINS

© 2015 New York Times

The presidential race is on! And right now the official pack of contenders consists of ... Ted Cruz.

Don't panic. There will be others. Really, April is going to bring a veritable shower. But, right now, unless you count all the people who register to run for president on the Unknown ticket, and the anesthesiologist in Cleveland who declared his candidacy but forgot to tell his wife, Cruz is the only genuine, more-or-less serious, on-the-record candidate we've got. Attention must be paid.

Cruz, a freshman senator from Texas, is 44 with about two years of experience in elective office. (Barack Obama's success seems to have given hope to the wrong people.) He announced his candidacy in a big speech to the students at Liberty University, a conservative evangelical school in Virginia.

It was a great setting - an auditorium full of fresh faces, all of them eager to support Ted Cruz and avoid a \$10 fine the university levied for nonattendance.

The announcement was long on biography: Cruz tells his family story a lot, stressing the terrible obstacles overcome on the road to American success. As a public service, we are going to check to see whether you've been paying attention:

1) Ted Cruz was born in:

- A) Cuba.
- B) A manger somewhere south of Houston.
- C) Canada.

2) Cruz is very close to his father, an evangelical pastor who has said that President Obama:

- A) Is a lot like Fidel Castro.
- B) Should be sent "back to Kenya."
- C) "Seeks to destroy all concept of God."

3) Cruz describes leaving home for college as a very difficult experience. ("He was alone and scared," the presidential candidate told his audience at Liberty, speaking in the third person.) His traumatic voyage into higher education took place at:

- A) An exchange student program in Ulan Bator.
- B) A community college in a tough neighborhood in Toledo.
- C) Princeton.

4) Cruz worked two jobs to get through college. This was partly for tuition and partly because:

A) He had lost \$1,800 playing poker.

B) He wanted to give generous donations in the Sunday collection plate.

C) He was saving up to buy an embossed copy of the Constitution.

5) After college Cruz was lucky enough to get into Harvard Law School. Later, he recalled Harvard Law as a place with:

- A) Enlightening classes.
- B) Great poker games.
- C) Communist professors.

6) After law school, Cruz's struggles continued, and he:

- A) Attempted to volunteer for the military but was rejected for poor vision. So he signed up instead for four years of missionary work in Papua New Guinea.
- B) Taught in a low-income neighborhood in San Antonio while devoting his weekends to coaching midnight basketball at the Y.
- C) Clerked for Supreme Court Chief Justice William Rehnquist, worked as a \$695-an-hour appellate lawyer and nabbed an appointment as Texas solicitor general.

7) Cruz was a big music fan in his youth, but he claims he stopped liking rock after:

- A) 9/11.
- B) Led Zeppelin broke up.
- C) Mick Jagger turned 70.

8) Cruz has been making the regular stops for a presidential hopeful. In Iowa, when a reporter asked him for a personal fact no one knows, he confided that he despises:

- A) Avocados.
- B) Alexander Hamilton and the influence of urban mercantilism in the post-Revolutionary era.
- C) Everything Beyoncé has done since Destiny's Child.

9) In New Hampshire, Cruz recently gave his apocalyptic speech about the way the Democrats are ruining the country. When he declaimed "The whole world is on fire!" he appeared to:

- A) Levitate.
- B) Scare a little girl.
- C) Glow in the dark.

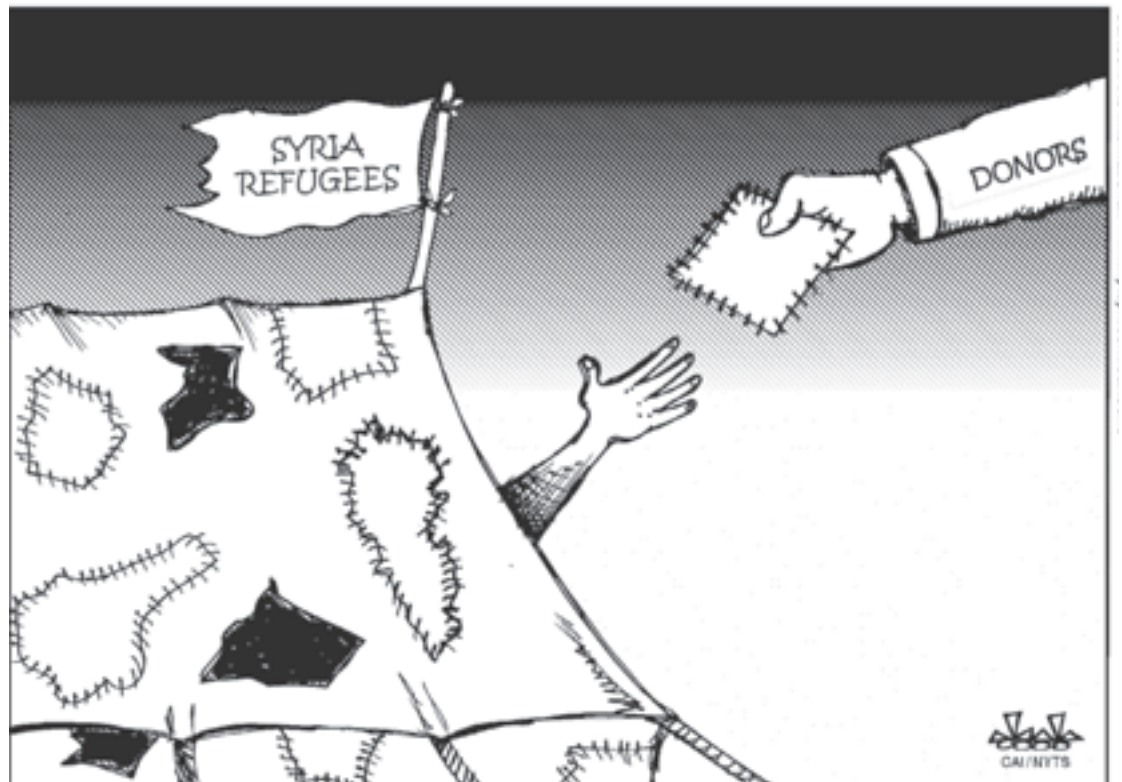
ANSWERS: 1-C: "It was cold," he once told The Houston Chronicle, in what may be one of his most lengthy reminiscences about the land of his birth. As far as his eligibility to run for president goes, children of U.S. citizens are citizens no matter where they enter the world. The only person who does not understand this is Donald Trump. ("You're supposed to be born in this country.")

2-Trick question! All of the above.

3-C; 4-A; 5-C. When he was beginning his political career in Texas, Cruz estimated that about 12 members of the law school faculty were "Marxists who believed in the communists overthrowing the United States government."

6-C; 7-A, Cruz told CBS News the attack on the World Trade Center caused him to switch to country music: "I didn't like how rock music responded."

8-A; 9-B, "The world is on fire?" the child cried out. But her mother says she was inspired, not scared. □



The Field Seems Flat For Democrats



DAVID BROOKS

© 2015 New York Times

Like a lot of people who pay attention to such things, I had assumed that Democrats had a huge advantage going into next year's presidential race. Democrats do really well among the growing demographic groups, like Hispanics, single people and the young. Republicans, meanwhile, are doing sensationally well with just about every shrinking group. If 67-year-old rural white men were the future of the electorate, the GOP would be rolling.

But there's a growing body of evidence to suggest that, in fact, Democrats do not enter this election with an advantage. There are a series of trends that may cancel out the Democratic gains with immigrants, singles and the like.

We first began to notice these counterforces in the high-immigrant red states that were supposed to start turning purple by now - places like Texas, Arizona and Georgia. New types of voters have, indeed, flooded into these places, but as Ronald Brownstein points out in The National Journal, since 1992, Democratic presidential nominees have averaged only 44.5 percent of the vote in Georgia, 43.7 percent of the vote in Arizona and a pathetic 40.4 percent of the vote in Texas.

Instead of turning pink or purple,

these states have become more thoroughly Republican - from school board elections on up.

Nationally, three big things are happening to at least temporarily hold off the Democratic realignment. First, the aging of the electorate is partially canceling out the diversifying of the electorate. People tend to get more Republican as they get older, and they vote at higher rates. And older people are moving to crucial states. In Arizona, Barack Obama won 63 percent of the young adults, but only 29 percent of the oldsters.

This aging effect could have a big impact in the swing states of the Midwest, like Wisconsin, Ohio, Iowa, Michigan and Pennsylvania. These states have generally gone Democratic in presidential years, but it's hard to miss the growing Republican strength at every other level. As Brownstein notes, Republicans have a 42-to-18 advantage in U.S. House seats in these states. They control the governorships in all but Pennsylvania. They control both statehouses in all these states save the Iowa Senate.

Second, Democrats continue to lose support among the white working class. In 2008, Obama carried 40 percent of white voters with a high school degree. By 2012, that was down to 36 percent. As John B. Judis points out in a National Journal piece called "The Emerging Republican Advantage," the tilt of the white working class to the GOP has been even more pronounced in other races. In 2006, Democrats got 44 percent of the white-working-class vote in U.S. House races. By 2014, they got only 34 percent. In 2009, Republicans had a 20-seat advantage in House districts that were majority white working class. Today, they have a 125-seat advantage.

Most surprising, Democrats are now doing worse among college-educated voters. Obama won white college graduates in 2008, but he lost them to Mitt Romney in 2012. In Colorado, for example, Obama lost 8 points in

his support from college-educated voters from 2008 to 2012.

White college grads are drifting away from Democrats down-ballot, too. And, most significant, there are signs that Hispanic voters, at least in Sun Belt states, are getting more Republican as they move up the educational ladder. Surveys and interviews give us some sense of what's going on. Voters have a lot of economic anxieties. But they also have a template in their heads for what economic dynamism looks like.

That template does not include a big role for government. Polls show that faith in government is near all-time lows. In a Gallup survey, voters listed dysfunctional government as the nation's No. 1 problem. In fact, American voters' traditional distrust has morphed and hardened. They used to think it was bloated and ineffective. Now they think it is bloated and ineffective and rigged to help those who need it least.

When many of these voters think of economic dynamism, they think of places like Texas, the top job producer in the nation over the past decade, and, especially, places like Houston, a low-regulation, low-cost-of-living place. In places like Wisconsin, voters in the middle-class private sector support candidates who cut state pensions and pass right-to-work laws, so that economic governance can be more Texas-style.

In short, economic philosophy is mitigating the effect of demographic change, at least for a little while longer. Political guru Charlie Cook asks: Will this be a "Time for a Change" election or will this be a "Changing American Demographics" election? I suspect it will be a "Time for a Change" election. The crucial swing voters will be white and Hispanic college graduates in suburban office parks. They are not into redistribution or that Sen. Ted Cruz opened his campaign at Liberty University.

The 2016 campaign is starting on level ground. □

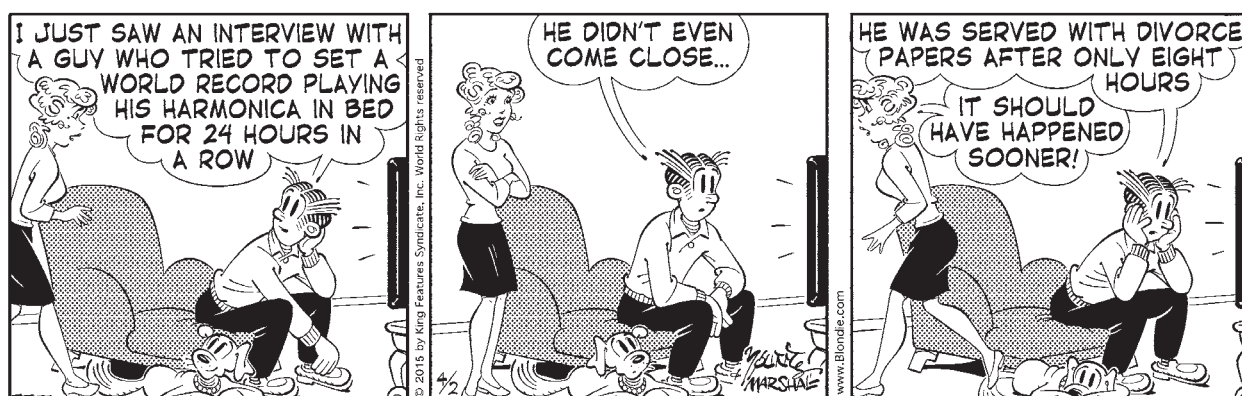
Mutts



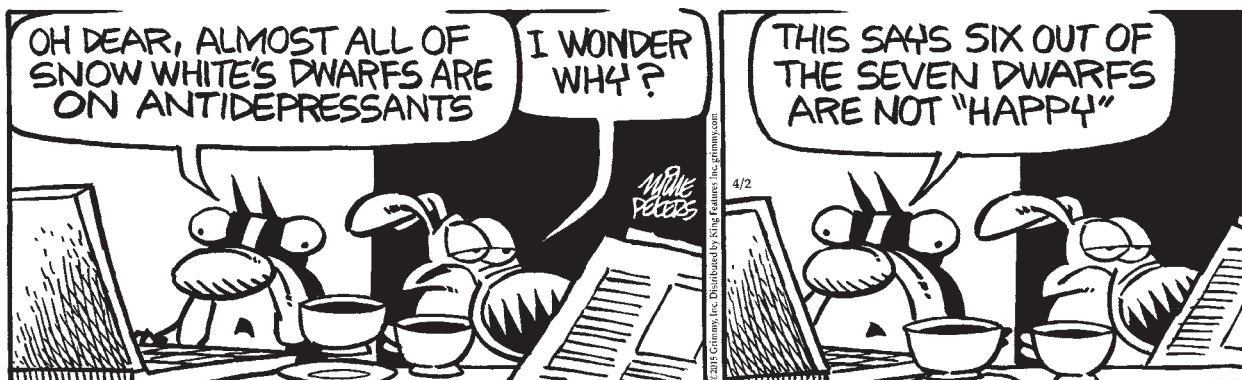
6 Chix



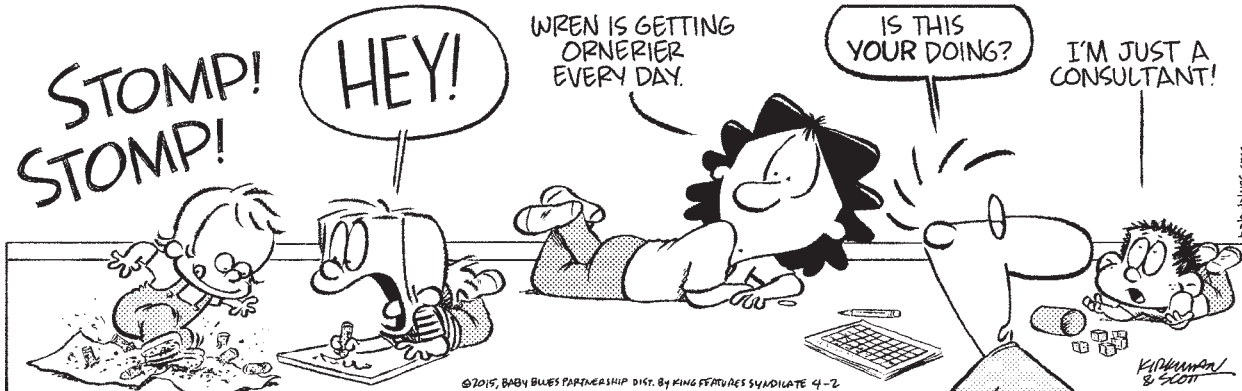
Blondie



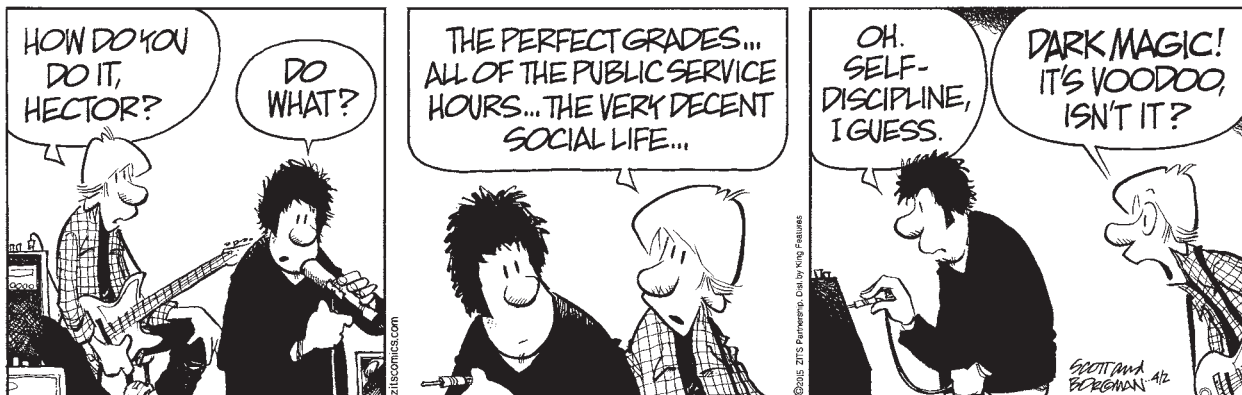
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

5								9
			5	1		3		
	1			4	2			
		1					4	
	9	7				8	3	
	2					6		
			9	7			2	
		4		3	8			
3								5

Difficulty Level ★★

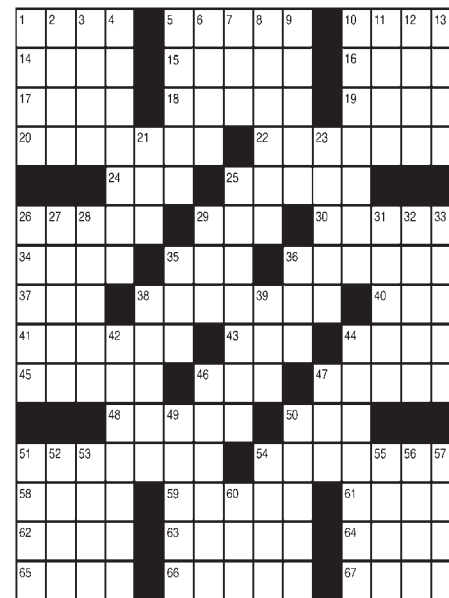
4/02

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

3	2	4	9	6	7	8	5	1
9	5	6	1	3	8	2	7	4
1	7	8	4	2	5	9	3	6
8	1	2	7	5	9	4	6	3
7	9	5	6	4	3	1	8	2
6	4	3	8	1	2	7	9	5
2	6	9	5	8	1	3	4	7
4	3	7	2	9	6	5	1	8
5	8	1	3	7	4	6	2	9

ACROSS

- 1 Went down smoothly
5 Drive 85 mph, for example
10 "___ wrap!"; director's words
14 Walking stick
15 ___ bear; animal with white fur
16 Repast
17 Curry & Jillian
18 Join forces
19 Bucket
20 Answer
22 With bells on
24 ___jet printer
25 Passion
26 Woodwind instrument
29 Scale divisions: abbr.
30 Linear measures
34 Actor's part
35 Sinatra's third wife
36 Play over again in one's mind
37 Opening trio
38 Go in again
40 Fawn's color
41 Spain's peninsula
43 June honoree
44 Ties the knot
45 Ancient harps
46 Floor-cleaner's implement
47 Mid-afternoon
48 Meat shunner
50 Regret
51 Neat
54 Purplish red
58 Penniless
59 Go ___ of; overtake
61 College official
62 Troubles
63 Striped animal
64 Give, but expect back
65 Gen. Robert ___
66 Glowing coal
67 Not relaxed



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

4/2/15

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

CAROB	STAR	OARS
ABOVE	LOPE	UTAH
RUDER	ONES	TIDE
ETERNITY	COLLIE	
DASH	AUDITOR	
ANGORA	PREEN	
CALDALES	SEAMS	
TIER	COCOA	SLAP
SLEEP	CANDY	SIR
COHAN	MELODY	
FEDERAL	FILE	
ERASER	OUTLASTS	
ANNS	AVID	IDAHO
SIZE	SING	NEVER
TEAS	SAKE	GREET

©2015 Tribune Content Agency, LLC
All Rights Reserved.

4/2/15

DOWN

- 1 Sign of an old wound
2 Path
3 Hampton and Holiday
4 Regardless of
5 Gumption
6 Small lake
7 Samuel's teacher
8 Man-___; cannibals
9 Great fear
10 Put in danger
11 Rip
12 Jib, for one
13 Friendly nation
21 2/5 and 3/5
23 TV's "___ Pyle, U.S.M.C."
25 Desert
26 Feeble
27 Hotel foyer
28 Stomach woe
29 Whopper
31 Metric quantity
32 Steer clear of
33 Good judgment
35 ___ culpa
36 Maroon or ruby

- 38 Staircase piece
39 Faucet
42 Car backer's gear
44 Entice by flattery
46 Havoc
47 Pull hard
49 Sugary coating
50 "M*A*S*H" role
51 Mayberry kid
52 Toss the dice
53 Mete out
54 Female horse
55 Have to have
56 Orangey drink
57 Singer Williams
60 ___ and flow

Divi floating weeks
Studios 3/14 to 12/12
wk to 50, \$3600 or 1 br \$4400
or Studios wk 21 to 40 5/23 to
40 silver 5/23 to 12/3 \$3100 +mf
local 565-9394 until 3/31 or
US 508-651-0016
e-mail rmwjmwa@aol.com

211865

RELAX MASSAGE SERVICES

at your door
we're available 24 hours a
day. For more info:
Call 744-3997

211884

Concierge Realty



Marriott Aruba Surf Club

GOLD Season

Ocean side \$9900
Ocean view \$8900
Ocean front \$14500
3 BEDRM OV \$17k

PLATINUM Season

Ocean view \$16k
Ocean side \$17500
Ocean front \$28900
3 BEDRM OV \$27k
Plat. Plus Holiday 51 OV
\$46k
Plat. Plus NY 52 OV \$49k

Marriott Aruba Ocean club

GOLD Season

2B Ocean view \$9k
2B Ocean front \$14900
1B Ocean front \$10900

PLATINUM Season

2B ocean view \$18500
2B Ocean front \$29k
1B Ocean view \$11500
**Destination points
available between \$7 and
\$8 per point.

**We are the #1
Rental Timeshare
agent for Aruba!**

We also RENT Aruba
weeks for owners. Contact
us to BUY, SELL or RENT
any timeshare property.

888-888-2204 Ext 111
321-206-6293 Ext 111
321-250-7164 Fax
FaxWebsite:
www.conciergerealty.com

Classifieds

Aruba Home Minders

HOME FOR SALE PERFECT PALM BEACH GETAWAY Reduced to Sell \$269,000.00



Palm Beach 56B

Private 3 bedroom home fully furnished w/ pool
High Rise Hotel area
Large gated lot with low maintenance landscaping
Fantastic family home or investment property!

For private tour and directions

Cell: 733-4663
info@arubahomeminders.com

Realtors Welcome

211617

TIMESHARE FOR SALE RENAISSANCE

Week	room	price
1+2	517	\$ 19,000
10	137	\$ 9,000
14	348	\$ 11,500
8	561	\$ 9,000
13	501	\$ 9,000
14	349	\$1 1,000
9	135	\$ 9,000
7/8	304	\$9,000 each
10	139	\$8,500
51+52	2547	\$38,250

Contact Brian Cell: 593-0200
vr.realty@mac.com

FOR SALE

Divi Golf + Beach 2 rm suite, lock off

master br, 2 bath, wk 36 sept 5
unit 4206 and wk 40 unit 4106,
1013 gated 24 HR security,
luxury furnished, steps to affinity
pool \$5900 each tm fees, rental
considered

Local 565-9394 until 3/31 or
US 508-651-0016
e-mail rmwjmwa@aol.com

211865

Time Share Resale

Do you want to sell your Time Share in Aruba ?

let us just do it !
call the expert, 30 years
experience

005-999-518-2984

info@arubatimetravel.com

www.arubatimetravel.com

211881

Time Share Resale

La Cabana BRC

1 bedroom week 13 room #342 A
pool/ocean view

1 bedroom week 14 room #340 C
poo/ocean view

Saturday check in , Price :\$8500
each

more info call:005-999-518- 2984

info@arubatimetravel.com

www.arubatimetravel.com

211881

Time share Resale

Aruba Beach Club

week 12 Superior Unit 249

Ocean View

week 13 & 14 Superior Unit 230

ocean view

price \$8000 each ,

more info call :005-999-518-2984

info@arubatimetravel.com

www.arubatimetravel.com

211881

DOCTOR ON DUTY



Oranjestad

April 3 Dr. Mungra

EMERGENCIA 911



POLIS	100
POLIS	581-1100
ORANJESTAD	582-4000
NOORD	587-0009
STA. CRUZ	585-4710
SAVANETA	584-7000
SAN NICOLAS	584-5000
FIRE DEPT.	115
FIRE DEPT.	582-1108
POLIS TIPLINE	11141
HOSPITAL	527-4000
AMBULANCE	582-1234
SAN NICOLAS	
AMBULANCE	584-5050

PHARMACY

Oranjestad: Paradera Tel: 588-6638
San Nicolas: Seroe Preto Tel: 584-4833

INFORMATION	118
SETAR	582-2116
TAXI	582-5900
TAXI-TAS	587-5900
PROF. TAXI	588-0035
TAXI D.T.S.	587-2300
SERVICE ARUBA	583-3232

CRUISESHIP

April 2
Carnival Breeze
Adventure of the Seas
Royal Cipper

Aruba Aiport	524-2424
American Airline	582-2700
Avianca	588-0059
Dutch Antilles	588-1900
Insel Air	588-9314
Jet Blue	588-2244
Spirit Airlines	582-7117
Tiara Air	588-4272
Venezolana	583-7674

FOUNDATION

FELLOWSHIP CLINIC

Tel: 584-6440
Alcoholism & Drug Addiction,
Anonymity guaranteed

FUNDACION

Anti-Droga

Aruba
(FADA) Tel: 583-2999

FUNDACION

Respetami

Tel: 582-4433

Diabetic Foundation

Arubano

Tel: 583-3808

Narcotics Anonymous

Tel: 583-8989

Foundation Amor

pa Prohimo

Tel: 583-3345 /586-6976

Women in Difficulties

Foundation

Tel: 583-5400

Bloodbank Aruba

Tel: 587-0002

FOR SALE

Diamante 83

This townhouse within the
gated community of Gold-
coast is build on 1441sf of
property land. With 2 bed-
rooms, 3 bathrooms, laundry
closet, kitchen with breakfast
bar, stainless steel appliances
and 100 % airconditioned
rooms. Featuring two lighted
tennis courts, 4 swimming
pools (2 are ready), fitness
center, retail area and more



US \$ 357.000,-



Aruba Real Estate
Independently Owned and Operated

Palm Beach 4-G
Tel.: 586 4242
www.arubahouses.com





Honey Dolls

MASSAGE AND ESCORT SERVICE

Beautiful Latin Girls

Pick-up & Delivery
 Serving Men - Couple - Women - All Genders
 Bachelor Party Specialized, the best in the Caribbean **Call: 565-9535**



24/7

Tiny songbird tracked across vast swaths of open ocean

WILSON RING
Associated Press

MONTPELIER, Vermont
(AP) — A tiny songbird

that summers in the forests of northern North America has been tracked on a 1,700-mile (2,735-kilometer), over-the-ocean journey from the northeastern United States and eastern Canada to the Caribbean as part of their winter migration to South America, according to a new study. Scientists had long suspected that the blackpoll warbler had made its journey to the Caribbean over the ocean, but the study that began in the summer of 2013 when scientists attached tracking devices to the birds was the first time that the flight has been proven, according to results published Wednesday in the United Kingdom in the journal *Biology Letters*.

"It is such a spectacular, astounding feat that this half-an-ounce bird can make what is obviously a perilous, highly risky journey over the open ocean," said Chris Rimmer of the Vermont Center for Ecostudies, one of the authors.

The warblers, known to bulk up by eating insects near their coastal departure points before heading south, are common in parts of North America, but their numbers have been declining. "Now maybe that will help us

focus attention on what could be driving these declines," Rimmer said.

Knowing how the blackpoll warblers migrate helps scientists know more

aren't able to fuel sufficiently to make this kind of flight because of habitat fragmentation and habitat loss in New England or the Canadian Maritimes?"

birds that winter in South America fly through Mexico and Central America. In the summer of 2013, scientists tagged 19 blackpolls on Vermont's Mount

25 and Oct. 21 and flew directly to the islands of Hispaniola or Puerto Rico in flights ranging from 49 to 73 hours. A fifth bird departed Cape Hatteras,



In this May 2014 photo released by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, a blackpoll warbler sits on a limb in Minnesota.

Associated Press

about the implications of changing climate, said Andrew Farnsworth, a research associate at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology who specializes in migration biology and was not involved in the study.

"What happens if birds

Farnsworth said. "How much energy do they need and if they don't get it, what happens?"

A number of bird species fly long distances over water, but the warbler is different because it's a forest dweller. Most other

Mansfield and 18 in two locations in Nova Scotia. Of those, three were recaptured in Vermont with the tracking device attached and two in Nova Scotia. Four warblers, including two tagged in Vermont, departed between Sept.

North Carolina, and flew nearly 1,000 miles (1,600 kilometers) before landing in the Turks and Caicos before continuing on to South America.

On their return journeys north, the birds flew along the coast. □

IN & OUT CALL
FREE PICKUP

*Safe Tours to the Red light District with private guide:
 A 3 Hours tour includes a FREE Bottle of Wine*

The First & Only Legal One on Aruba Since 1997

Yap Yum

Escort Service

24 Hours Straight Service
7 Days a Week ANYTIME

Call 561-7777

**WE SERVICE MEN,
 WOMEN & COUPLES**

*We Guarantee
 Quality, Service
 & Reliability*

Fast, furious, unstoppable: Franchise stays in high gear

LINDSEY BAHR

AP Film Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Neither Vin Diesel nor producer Neal Moritz wanted a sequel to "The Fast and the Furious." The 2001 film about a group of East Los Angeles street racers and the FBI agent (Paul Walker) who infiltrates their ring just wasn't "that kind of film," according to Moritz.

Now, 14 years, seven movies, a few restarts and \$2.4 billion later, Universal's homegrown "Fast & Furious" franchise has become one of the jewels of the studio.

And, cinema's most improbable series keeps getting bigger and faster, fueled by growing international interest. With its diverse cast, keen self-awareness, postcard locales and crazy stunts, "Fast & Furious" has become the quintessential global franchise.

And even larger sums of international currency lie ahead: "Furious 7" is tracking to be the most successful installment yet, with the studio planning to make at least three more movies.

The first film's \$207 million worldwide gross made a sequel inevitable, even without Diesel, who still thought it was a mistake and was willing to walk away from "2 Fast 2 Furious" and \$20-some million to prove it.

"I felt like the surest way to rule yourself out of being a classic was to sequel-ize," said Diesel.

Then, when director Justin Lin and screenwriter Chris Morgan stepped in for the third film, "Fast and Furious: Tokyo Drift," it seemed like a franchise killer. But in convincing Diesel to come back for a small cameo, the team concocted a crazy plan for three more films that would create an interconnected saga out of the disparate story lines. The fourth, simply titled "Fast & Furious," was the turning point, reuniting the originals, including Diesel and Walker, with key members of "Tokyo Drift." Lin, Morgan, Moritz and Diesel (along with his mil-

lions of social media fans) followed that with perhaps the best film in the series, "Fast Five," which added Dwayne Johnson to the cast and earned \$630 million worldwide. "Fast & Furious 6" did even better, grossing a staggering \$789 million.

"These films pushed the boundaries of traditional action movie motifs and created a world unto itself," said Paul Dergarabedian, the Senior Analyst for box office firm Rentrak. "Their international locales and diverse cast made them a truly global phenomenon." Director James Wan, who took the helm for the seventh film, believes the "Furious" appeal has a lot to do with the characters and casting. "People like this franchise because of the incredible stunts and crazy action set pieces. But I think, ultimately, it has longevity because of the characters. People love the characters; people love the actors playing the characters," said Wan. Not only does the series boast one of the most racially diverse casts in blockbuster history, the team is always looking at the evolution of the story with an eye to the international, from the savvy casting of talents like Indonesian actor Joe Taslim ("Fast & Furious 6") and Thai martial artist Tony Jaa ("Furious 7"), to those travelogue locations. "It does help," said Universal's president of international distribution, Duncan Clark, who saw an uptick in earnings from Brazil after it was featured in "Fast Five." He hopes the same will be true for Abu Dhabi, a key setting in the latest movie. Diesel, in a YouTube video, said outright that they took the production to the United Arab Emirates for its box office potential. Indeed, most international markets have grown steadily over the past few films, but none can match the power of China, which has become "a tremendous elevation for all films now," said Clark.

Continued on Next Page



This photo provided by Universal Pictures shows, from left, Tyrese Gibson as Roman, Michelle Rodriguez as Letty, Paul Walker as Brian, and Chris Ludacris as Tej, in a scene from "Furious 7." Associated Press

glitz

casino

LOCATED AT LA CABANA BEACH RESORT

Pull your Easter Luck!

Raffle: Saturday 4th - Sunday 5th & Monday 6th
Raffle times: 2:15PM - 8:00PM - 11:00PM

Redeem your CASH BACK and get the chance to win Fabulous Prizes:

\$5000 in cash prizes

X2-X3-X4 cash back
Oscar D'Leon concert tickets
Dinner & Spa gift certificates
and much more...

WhatsApp

600-2779

Open daily from 10:00 AM - 4:00 AM
Daily bingo starting at 1:00 PM
For more information, please call 587-3399

Fast, furious

Continued on Previous Page

China contributed \$53.6 million of the sixth film's total (up from "Fast Five's" \$38 million) and all eyes are on "Furious 7's" debut there on April 12.

China's worth was not lost on the promotional side either. While "Fast & Furious 6" had an extensive international press tour, "Furious 7" had only two locations on the schedule: Los Angeles and Beijing, its first press event there.

For Universal, the series is vitally important to its overall business and a worthy competitor to the superhero fare of other studios.

"At this point we believe we can compete with anybody. We saw a huge opportunity to be the first movie of the early summer and then have three weeks all to ourselves," said Moritz.

As for what's next, Universal chair Donna Langley has said that there are at



least three more films in the series. Right now, though, they're just glad "Furious 7" is finally set to open.

The film was supposed to debut in July of 2014, but Paul Walker's death in November 2013 threw everything for a loop as the team regrouped to figure out first, whether or not to complete it in his absence, and then how to do it tastefully.

"Honestly, this has been the hardest movie I've ever made," said Moritz, who now looks forward to continuing the journey.

"We've had talks about

what we want to do, but we'll get really serious after the release."

And even after seven films, there's still stuff yet to be tried: No "Fast & Furious" film has played domestically in 3-D, partly because the fast cuts of the action sequences have made them difficult to watch in the format. Also, they have yet to use China as a location and Moritz thinks they will. "I'm sure there will be a point where the bar is so high we'll not be able to beat it. But I think we've got plans for a good few before that," said Clark. □

Singer Joni Mitchell hospitalized in Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Joni Mitchell was in intensive care in a Los Angeles-area hospital on Tuesday, according to the Twitter account and website of the folk singer and Rock and Roll Hall of Famer.

"Joni was found unconscious in her home this afternoon," said a statement on the Mitchell website. "She is currently in intensive care undergoing tests and is awake and in good spirits."

It wasn't immediately clear what illness she had.

Los Angeles fire officials said paramedics answered an afternoon 911 call in Bel Air, where Mitchell lives, and took a patient to the hospital. But they could not verify her identity or give details on her condition.

The 71-year-old singer-songwriter told Billboard magazine in December

that she has a rare skin condition, Morgellons disease, which prevents her from performing. Still, she released a career-spanning four-disc box set last year and appeared at Clive Davis' annual pre-Grammy party in February. Mitchell has received eight Grammy Awards, including a lifetime achievement award in 2002. She was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1997.

She started her career as a street musician in her native Canada before moving to Southern California, where she became part of the flourishing folk scene in the late 1960s. Her second album, "Clouds," was a breakthrough with such songs as "Both Sides Now" and "Chelsea Morning," winning Mitchell the Grammy for best folk performance. □

Catch your own dinner with Driftwood!

Motto at Driftwood Restaurant: "from the pier to your plate!"



ORANJESTAD - The downtown marina is home of Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fisherman of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood in Oranjestad. Driftwood owner Herby

Merryweather has a love and passion for fishing.

A fisherman who knows about fish, what our local waters have to offer, and what the words "fresh seafood" really mean.

What Herby catches will be served in his restaurant on the same day. Herby loves to share his fishing passion with the many visitors to the island. His fleet of a 35ft. Twin Engine Bertram yacht and a 50ft. Twin Engine Post yacht, appropriately called "Driftwood I and II, is available for charters on 12 noon and from 1pm to 5pm.



Winners of Intl. LUHRS Marina Group Blue Marlin Release Tournament 2009

Catch your own dinner

A charter includes: captain, mate all fishing equipment, bait, sodas and bottled water. On a full day charter sandwiches and snacks are also included.

You can call Herby directly at (297) 592 4040 or go to www.driftwoodaruba.com

Driftwood Restaurant. This authentic Aruban seafood restaurant is located in characteristic downtown Oranjestad. Their

extended menu has been jubled by many. Driftwood offers daily specials, as well as a delicious 4-course menu for just \$25.95 **Charter deep sea fishing rates:** \$400 - 1/2 day • \$760 - full day. Rates per boat Max. 6 people. **Driftwood Restaurant** Authentic Aruban Seafood Restaurant; Klipstraat #12, Downtown Oranjestad. Tel: (297) 583 2515 www.driftwoodaruba.com Open hours: every day, from 5pm till 10:30pm. Sunday Closed.





MICHELE



DECO DIAMOND, DIAMOND DIAL
ON BLUE NIGHTS CRYSTAL

Shiva's

GOLD & GEMS

L.G. Smith Blvd. #94
Royal Plaza Mall, Oranjestad, Aruba
Tel: (297) 583-4077 - Fax: (297) 582-6791
E mail: shivasaruba@setarnet.aw - www.shivasjewelers.com

(2 Locations)

L.G. Smith Blvd. #95
Palm Beach Plaza Mall, Palm Beach, Aruba
Tel: (297) 586-2526 - Fax: (297) 582-6791
E-mail: shivasaruba@setarnet.aw - www.shivasjewelers.com



Since 1958



MULCO

www.mulco.com



@MULCOWatches

Shiva's
GOLD & GEMS

L.G. Smith Blvd. #94, Royal Plaza Mall, Oranjestad, Aruba.
Tel: (297) 583-4077 - Fax: (297) 582-6791

L.G. Smith Blvd. #95, Palm Beach Plaza Mall, Palm Beach, Aruba.
Tel: (297) 583-4077 - Fax: (297) 582-6791

E-mail: shivasaruba@setanet.aw - www.shivasjewelers.com